

THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, the Fine Arts, Music and the Drama.

No. 3087.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1886.

PRICE
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REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER

CHRISTMAS LECTURES.

ROYAL INSTITUTION OF GREAT BRITAIN,
Albemarle-street, Piccadilly, W.
Professor DEWAR, M.A. F.R.S., will deliver a COURSE OF SIX LECTURES (adapted to a Juvenile Audience), on the Chemistry of Light and Photography (with Experimental Illustrations), commencing on TUESDAY, December 28, 1886, at 3 o'clock; to be continued on December 30, and January 1, 4, 6, 8, 1887. Subscriptions (for Non-Members) to this Course, One Guinea; Children under 16, Half-a-Guinea. To all the Courses in the Season, Two Guineas. Tickets may now be obtained at the Institution.

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LESLIE STEPHEN, Esq., will deliver his Second Discourse on Bishop Butler, on SUNDAY MORNING, December 26th.—His Solution of the Problem. Service at 11.15 a.m.

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LITERATURE

A History of Modern Europe. By C. A. Fyffe, M.A.—Vol. II. From 1814 to 1848. (Cassell & Co.)

MR. FYFFE'S first volume was published some years ago, and the completion of this one, he says, "has been delayed by almost every circumstance adverse to historical study and production, including a severe parliamentary contest." It is perhaps safe to guess that Mr. Fyffe had written about two-thirds of the second volume before his work upon it was disturbed. His review of events, their causes and their sequels, between 1814 and 1830 follows, and shows improvement upon the way in which he had handled the previous two-and-twenty years, and fairly accords with his original plan, which was "to show how the states of Europe have gained the form and character which they possess at the present moment." But there is a noticeable falling off in the last three chapters, which give a very inadequate account of the European movements that occurred during the reign of Louis Philippe, and were more or less influenced by it. Brevity is to be commended, and were Mr. Fyffe to maintain the average of about twenty-five pages to each year with which he started, he would need two other volumes, instead of one, for the rest of his compilation. Even twenty-five pages, however, are not enough for a thorough review of a year's affairs, and when he limits himself to about a third of that allowance he can only touch on a few of them.

The scheme of Mr. Fyffe's work, indeed, is either too large or too small. To set forth in sufficient detail all the momentous events of continental history during the past three quarters of a century, including so much of English history as is directly connected with them, would require far more elaborate research than Mr. Fyffe appears to have made, and, if this were really well done, ten or a dozen volumes would not be too many. On the other hand, a couple of volumes or so would serve for a critical exposition of the main facts, cleared of all of minor significance, which might be extremely useful as a guide to students of recent and present politics. Mr. Fyffe has attempted rather more than this, and, we are bound to say, does not show himself strong enough for his

undertaking. His second volume, like the first, is extremely readable, and, on the whole, accurate, but it does not place him in the highest rank of historians.

When Mr. Fyffe desires to be philosophical, he is apt to be commonplace. Thus he tells us, in the opening paragraph of his new volume, that "the history of the two last generations shows that not everything was lost to Europe in passing subjection to a usurper, nor everything gained by the victory of his opponents"; and he adds, "It is now not easy to suppress the doubt whether the permanent interests of mankind would not have been best served by Napoleon's success in 1812." Speculation as to what might have happened had Napoleon been able to triumph in 1812 and afterwards over all the forces ranged against him is hardly profitable. The lesson to be learnt by historical students is that, though Napoleon was not strong enough to hold the despotic position in which he found himself shortly before his fall, he owed that despotic position and all his strength to the stupendous efforts made by England and other powers to crush, not him alone, but the revolutionary spirit of which his opponents made him the champion. Had the French, after they had driven away the Bourbons, been suffered to work out their own future, Napoleon would have had no opportunity of becoming a serious danger to Europe; and it would have been far easier for the monarchs and statesmen who attacked the French, before as well as after he rose to power, and whose chief inducement thereto was the desire to prevent the "revolutionary spirit" from spreading among their own people, to face, and if they could to baffle, the new movement when it broke out among themselves, than it was for them to do that, in so far as they did it, by making war against the French, with or without Napoleon at their head. The fatal mistake had been committed by England and her allies long before Napoleon became emperor, and all that followed, both his few years of advancing power and his final overthrow, resulted necessarily from the early folly.

Readers of Mr. Fyffe's first volume were furnished with a lucid record of facts pointing so plainly to this conclusion that it is strange the lesson should have been in any way missed by himself. But Mr. Fyffe is always more successful in his epitomizing of facts than in his moralizing upon them, and the first three (or, as he would probably say, "the three first") chapters of his second volume set forth very concisely and exactly the progress of events in the half generation during which Europe was endeavouring to right itself after the turmoil of the Napoleonic wars. It was a period of reaction, in which, strange as it may seem, though it was not really strange, the whole of Western Europe, which had borne most of the burden of the wars, was least able to profit by the overthrow of "the usurper," and in which, for a time at least, Russia alone was able to make much progress. Had the Czar Alexander persevered with the liberal plans he entertained, the development of Russian nationality would have been far healthier than it was allowed to be; and it is more interesting than agreeable to note how the hindrances to Russian progress came chiefly from the malign in-

fluence of the older European states upon this new claimant for a place among them. Hitherto Russia had been regarded as a barbaric intruder in Europe—much more of an Oriental power than Turkey. The champions of oligarchic and bureaucratic institutions in the West favoured Turkey, where there was never any thought of granting the reforms that were promised. In Russia, where reforms were more than promised, these were discouraged. It was in the South that the anti-reforming spirit of the rulers was least successful, their too reckless zeal only serving to give rise to opposition that was strong enough to overwhelm them. In these southern states, however, the course of events was curiously diverse. In Spain the aspirations of the people were crushed by forces that wasted themselves in the process, and left the whole country in a degraded condition from which it has not yet recovered. In Italy domestic misrule and Austrian oppression stirred up such resistance as enabled the people to secure for themselves the large measure of freedom which Mr. Fyffe will have to chronicle in his next volume. In Greece, where outside tyranny was apparently most overwhelming, and where there seemed least prospect of a new nationality asserting itself successfully, the result was neither so gloomy as in Spain nor so brilliant as in Italy.

To Greek affairs, especially between 1820 and 1830, Mr. Fyffe devotes nearly a fourth of his second volume, and the space thus given to them would hardly be out of proportion, considering the real importance of the subject in its bearings on the whole Eastern Question, if Mr. Fyffe had used it aright. Unfortunately he has done little more than give a minute account of the events prior to the establishment of the kingdom of Greece, which should be very interesting to those who are not familiar with the details, but which is incomplete even in that respect, and misleading in its slight references to the larger problem. Mr. Fyffe, who has read his Byron as well as his Finlay, exaggerates the importance of "the Greek cause," although he admits that the mere facts of the Greek Patriarchate being established in Constantinople, of Greeks holding high and permanent offices under the Porte, and of Greeks being the principal traders over nearly the whole of European Turkey, did not give them a claim to acquire the entire Ottoman Empire south of the Danube. The great political blunder of the European governments was that, tolerating without approving the revolution which freed Greece from the Ottoman yoke, they left Russia to make it a success, and thus prepared the way for all the complications that have since arisen in the efforts of the Christian races in Turkey to advance towards independence.

Mr. Fyffe does justice to Canning for the shrewdness and vigour with which he did all he was able to do both to befriend the Greeks and to adopt in general affairs a statesman-like foreign policy, and to Canning's predecessor, Castlereagh, he gives higher praise than he receives from most historians and critics; but Mr. Fyffe says very little about England, and less even about her foreign relations than might have been expected. We need not complain that he passes over the Reform Bill agitation in a few sentences,

and disposes in a couple of lines of the anti-corn-law movement; but a fuller account of our domestic affairs would have helped his readers to understand the attitude of English ministers towards foreign countries, especially as regards the various efforts made in them to promote or retard the growth of popular liberties. His reticence is particularly noticeable in the chapters that treat of affairs during the reign of Louis Philippe. He speaks incidentally of Lord Palmerston's share in the Spanish marriages dispute, but without showing its importance; and to some other weighty matters he does not even allude.

No notes and only half a page of preface were given with Mr. Fyffe's first volume. In the second he is more liberal, and he complains, very properly, of the rule of our Foreign Office which "still closes to historical inquirers the English documents of the last seventy years," and in consequence of which he has "not been able to use the London archives later than 1815." It is only reasonable, however, to infer from the occasional references to his authorities which Mr. Fyffe now makes that had all our State Papers been within his reach he would not have studied them very closely with the view of checking or supplementing the information placed before him, in volumes easy of access, by other historians or painstaking editors.

The Odyssey of Homer. Books I.-XII.
Translated into English Verse by the
Earl of Carnarvon. (Macmillan & Co.)

So wide are the ways of Homeric translation, so manifold the riches of that large heroic world, that each new translator is welcome, and none the less if, to our comfort, he reminds us that, in spite of Mr. Matthew Arnold, even our "upper classes" are not yet wholly "barbarized," and that an earl may yet be faithful to the best tradition of his order, and love things Greek with the faith and taste of an Elgin or a Derby.

For this, at least, our thanks are due to Lord Carnarvon, and we further owe him a full recognition of the purity and simplicity of his style, which shows the power of Greek literature to chasten and refine. It is only a pity that this negative influence has been pushed too far; while anxious to remember that for the Greeks virtue lay in the mean, he has almost forgotten that there is another mean in which lies mediocrity. He has doubtless aimed at, and certainly attained, a uniform level of work; but it is the level of the plain, not of the mountain lands of Homer. It is small comfort that a translator seldom sinks if he never rises.

Lord Carnarvon has made a primary mistake in his metre, and from beginning to end illustrates to the full the dangers of blank verse to a writer who has little ear. So glaring is this deficiency in his case, that he once or twice has overlooked lines a foot short (Book vi. 217, ix. 115), an irregularity which is but imperfectly compensated by a line of six feet (xi. 585). After this it seems almost hypercritical to complain that we find unconscious rhymes (xi. 178-9, 479-80, 542-3), or that only by ingenuity and counting of syllables can such lines be scanned as viii. 521-3, "Then the wise chief cut from the

chine of a white-tusked boar a goodly morsel," the right division of which may be left as a riddle for the curious. Of merely weak and ineffective rhythm it is useless to speak. Lord Carnarvon's eye must be almost as ill-practised as his ear. Such forms as "Hephæstus," "Ἦμα," are not compensated by "Æchalian" for Echalian; and "Syren" is not what we should expect from a scholar. Probably it is a misprint for "ill-seemeth"—though it is curious that it should have been overlooked—that we owe the strange form in the final couplet of the volume:—

For it me-seemeth me to tell anew
A tale which I already have made plain.

But we will leave further criticism to quotations. Any ten lines taken at hazard will fairly represent the style and manner of the whole:—

So on we sailed grieving at heart, and came
Unto the Cyclops' land—a lawless race
And headstrong; they nor sow nor till,
But trust their harvests to th' Immortal Gods.
The corn, the barley and the clustering grape
Grow of their own sweet will; Heaven's kindly rain
Gives them their increase. They know not of law
Or ancient usage, nor grave council hold
In parley for the State; but in deep caves
They dwell upon the hill tops, and they rule
Their households, nor does each of other reck.

ix. 113-123.

As when the huntress Queen on mountain-side
Adown Taygetus, or on the ridge
Of lofty Erimanthus, speeds the chase
Of boar or hind, and with her the wild Nymphs,
Daughters of Zeus, the ægis-bearing Lord,
Their pastime take, and Leto's heart grows glad,
As above all with head and lofty brow
Most easy to be known the Goddess towers;
So fairest far of that fair company
The peerless maid outshone her maidens all.

vi. 115-124.

And when by craft or in fair fight thy foes
Lie dead before thee in thy palace halls,
Then get thee forth again, bearing in hand
A well-shaped oar, and journey till thou come
Unto a country distant far from sight
And sound of ocean, where men's homely fare
Is void of salt, where neither painted ship,
Nor oar that moves her like the bird of heaven,
Stir [sic] the sea wave. And this shall be the sign—
When with an oar across thy shoulder thrown
Some wayfarer shall meet thee in amaze
At thy strange burden, and shall deem it is
Some rustic implement; then fix that oar
Fast in the ground, and to Poseidon first
Pay all thy dues—a ram, a bull, a boar,
The father of the herd; next wend thy way
Homeward, and to the Gods in order due,
The dwellers of High Heaven, make sacrifice.
There rest thee, till arising from the depths
Of ocean, painless death with gentle touch
Shall steal upon thee in a blest old age,
And midst a happy people. I have said.

xi. 131-152.

Here the whole point of the sign given by Tiresias, *φῆν ἀθηρηλοῦν ἔχειν ἀνὰ φαιδύμῳ ὄμῳ*, is shirked in the paraphrase "a rustic implement." However, the translation is throughout so very free that it would be unfair to attempt to criticize too closely points missed or perverted.

Reminiscences of Abraham Lincoln by Distinguished Men of his Time. Collected and edited by Allen Thorndyke Rice. (Blackwood & Sons.)

MR. RICE has not carried out his plan so well as might be expected from an editor of his experience. It was a happy thought to obtain from some of Lincoln's contemporaries their personal recollections of what he said and did. But after collecting the material the duty of sifting and asorting

it became imperative. This is what is known as "editing"; but this duty Mr. Rice has not discharged. He has printed and published the material supplied to him; he has given biographical sketches of each writer whom he calls "distinguished"; he has reproduced their photographs, which conclusively prove that many of them are ill-favoured; and he has prefixed an introduction to the whole.

If the editing of this work had been adequate its size would not have been unwieldy, and its contents might have been light. As it is the work consists of 656 large pages, it weighs nearly 4 lb., and the contents for the most part are in keeping. Yet, though the work is very heavy, it is not uninteresting. In the introduction Mr. Rice has brought together some facts about Lincoln which are not mentioned by any of his contributors, and, if he had extended his own contribution so as to include all the best passages in their writings, he might have added a really valuable work to the literature relating to Lincoln. In order to exemplify this we shall throw into a connected form some of the stories or statements which are either new or characteristic. Before doing so, however, let us point out the defects in Mr. Rice's method, or rather his absence of editing. He says, at p. xx of the introduction, "we are told" that in 1830 Lincoln undertook "to split for Mrs. Nancy Miller four hundred rails for every yard of brown jean, dyed with walnut bark, that would be required to make him a pair of trousers." At p. 460 Mr. Leonard Swett, who professes to have had the information from Lincoln's own lips, declares that on Lincoln arriving at Macon county he

"found some cousins of the name of Hanks, and in connexion with one of these young men that winter took the job of splitting rails at a fixed price per hundred."

At p. 566 Mr. John Conness, who was Senator from California for six years, writes:

"Mr. Lincoln told the writer that he never split a rail, and he described his confusion when, after his nomination for President, the people came to congratulate him, bringing on their shoulders the rails he had split. What should he do about it? It was not true, and his impulse was then and there to correct it, but here were masses of men taking their own means of expressing their joy at the event of his nomination. Should he dampen the ardour of his supporters on the threshold of a campaign, or let it go on and treat it as a means or incident in our elections? He concluded to let it pass. The loose tradition originating in the enthusiasm and cunning of his followers has now passed into the realm of accepted facts."

Many of the other contributors refer to the rail-splitting story, appearing to accept it as perfectly authentic. Now, in such a case as this, an editor is bound to point out these discrepancies. Those who read Mr. Rice's introduction only—and we suspect that many will read little more—will never hear of them. Yet the statement of Mr. Conness seems to be reconcilable with others which would appear to be directly opposed to it. In the "Life of Lincoln," which his secretaries are now contributing to the *Century Magazine*, it is told how his cousin John Hanks helped the Lincoln family to settle on the spot in Illinois to which they had removed, and that Lincoln ploughed fifteen acres of land and split rails wherewith to

fence it. splitting that he may only "split a Mr. W of the B following

"One e whom was tive Cham talking of you never first dollar replied he and below down Sou own land had succe sufficient taking it persuasion to go, an enough to gathered going down wharves was, if p they were stopping contempl whether in any p down to the differ "Who ow "Will yo trunks ou I. I was ing some would gi were put themselv to the ste their tru steamer I called Each of dollar and I could s the mone thing, bu my life. boy, had that by h world see a more l time."

Mr. I following

"Line dollar. S steambo the stea to him took off Afterwar fastened dropped the boat shining current my sight Might foot-not cannot to differ of an rule are It is h who qu be suffi wordi

fence it. This was not carrying on "rail-splitting" as an avocation, and in saying that he had not been a rail-splitter Lincoln may only have intended to deny having ever "split a rail" as a matter of business.

Mr. W. D. Kelley, now the senior member of the House of Representatives, tells the following story of Lincoln's early life:—

"One evening when a few gentlemen, amongst whom was Mr. Seward, had met in the Executive Chamber without special business, and were talking of the past, the President said, 'Seward, you never heard, did you, how I earned my first dollar?' 'No,' said Mr. Seward. 'Well,' replied he, 'I was about eighteen years of age, and belonged, as you know, to what they call down South the "Scrubs"; people who do not own land or slaves are nobody there, but we had succeeded in raising, chiefly by my labour, sufficient produce as I thought to justify me in taking it down the river to sell. After much persuasion I had got the consent of my mother to go, and had constructed a flat-boat, large enough to take the few barrels of things we had gathered down to New Orleans. A steamer was going down the river. We have, you know, no wharves on the Western streams, and the custom was, if passengers were at any of the landings, they were to go out in a boat, the steamer stopping and taking them on board. I was contemplating my new boat, and wondering whether I could make it stronger or improve it in any part, when two men, with trunks, came down to the shore in carriages, and looking at the different boats, singled out mine, and asked, "Who owns this?" I answered modestly, "I do." "Will you," said one of them, "take us and our trunks out to the steamer?" "Certainly," said I. I was very glad to have the chance of earning something, and supposed that each of them would give me a couple of bits. The trunks were put on my boat, the passengers seated themselves upon them, and I sculled them out to the steamer. They got on board, and I lifted their trunks and put them on the deck. The steamer was about to put on steam again, when I called out, "You have forgotten to pay me." Each of them took from his pocket a silver half-dollar and threw it on the bottom of my boat. I could scarcely believe my eyes as I picked up the money. You may think it was a very little thing, and in these days it seems to me like a trifle, but it was a most important incident in my life. I could scarcely credit that I, the poor boy, had earned a dollar in less than a day; that by honest work I had earned a dollar. The world seemed wider and fairer before me; I was a more hopeful and thoughtful boy from that time."

Mr. Leonard Swett, however, gives the following version:—

"Lincoln told me of earning his first half dollar. Standing upon the shore of a river [sic], a steamboat was passing along in the middle of the stream. Some one on board the boat called to him to come with a small boat. He went, took off a passenger, and was paid the half dollar. Afterwards, playing upon a flat-boat which was fastened so as to reach out into the stream, he dropped his half dollar from the farthest end of the boat. Said he, 'I can see the quivering and shining of that half dollar yet, as in the quick current it went down the stream and sunk from my sight for ever.'"

Might not the editor have indicated in a foot-note either that both of these stories cannot be correct or else that they relate to different occurrences? The chief business of an editor is to guide readers, who as a rule are far more indolent than reviewers. It is his business also that a contributor who quotes a public document should not be suffered, without remark, to alter its wording. Both Mr. Boutwell and Mr.

McCulloch, who have held the important office of Secretary to the Treasury, quote the speech which Lincoln delivered at Gettysburg. Nothing finer in sentiment or more appropriate to the occasion has been delivered in our day. It is true the variations between the two versions are not many, yet they are by no means unimportant, and it is quite certain that Lincoln did not speak both.

Quoting from what Lincoln said in 1854, Mr. Boutwell writes:—

"Labour is prior to and independent of capital. Capital is only the fruit of labour, and could never have existed if labour had not first existed. Labour is the support of capital, and deserves much the higher consideration."

Mr. Colfax, having the same document or report before him, quotes from it what he calls "these memorable words":—

"Labour was prior to capital, but property is the fruit of labour. Let no man, therefore, who is houseless pull down the house of another, but let him labour diligently to build one for himself, thus assuring that his own shall be safe from violence when built."

Surely Mr. Rice should give some clue to the correct version of Lincoln's "memorable words."

Of less moment, though not unworthy of an editorial note, are the contradictory statements concerning the preparation of the Gettysburg oration. Mr. B. P. Poore writes:—

"Lincoln's remarks at Gettysburg, which have been compared to the Sermon on the Mount, were written in the car on his way from Washington to the battle-field, upon a piece of pasteboard held on his knee, with persons talking all around him."

Mr. J. B. Fry, who, as Provost Marshal-General of the United States, accompanied Lincoln to Gettysburg, writes:—

"It has been said, I believe, that Lincoln wrote in the car en route to Gettysburg the celebrated speech which he delivered upon that historic battle-ground. I am quite sure this is an error. I have no recollection of seeing him writing or even reading his speech during the journey. In fact, there was hardly an opportunity for him to read or write."

Furthermore, Mr. Rice makes a statement in his introduction which is contradicted by one from Lincoln himself:—

"There seems to have been in Lincoln's nature a modesty and lack of desire to rule which nothing could lessen or efface."

At p. 390 Mr. J. B. Fry writes:—

"I observed but one craving that Lincoln could not overcome: that was for a second term of the Presidency. He was fully conscious of the grip this desire had upon him, and once said by way of apology for it, 'No man knows what that gnawing is till he has had it.'"

One of Mr. Rice's minor mistakes is to say that Lincoln "patented a novel steamboat" about 1846. What he did patent was an improved boat which could be easily moved over or from a sandbank or shoal in a river, the patent being granted for an invention "for lifting vessels over shoals." The mistake occurs in Mr. Raymond's 'Life of Lincoln,' and Mr. Raymond was misled by a writer in the *Boston Advertiser*.

We proceed to cite a few passages which illustrate Lincoln's character. Mr. Kelley introduced the actor Mr. John McDonough to Lincoln. The latter in the course of conversation expressed his doubt as to whether

actors knew Shakspeare's plays in any other version than that prepared and arranged for the stage. The Rev. B. R. Miller, a Wesleyan minister and chaplain to the 119th Pennsylvania Volunteers, was present. Turning to him, Lincoln said:—

"From your calling it is probable you do not know that the acting plays which people crowd to hear are not always those planned by their reputed authors. Thus, take the stage edition of "Richard III." It opens with a passage from "Henry VI.," after which come portions of "Richard III.," then another scene from "Henry VI.," and the finest soliloquy in the play, if we may judge from the many quotations it furnishes, and the frequency with which it is heard in amateur exhibitions, was never seen by Shakspeare, but was written, was it not, after his death, by Colley Cibber?.....It must not be supposed that Mr. Lincoln's poetical studies had been confined to Shakspeare's plays. He interspersed his remarks with extracts striking from their similarity to, or contrast with, something of Shakspeare's, from Byron, Campbell, Moore, and other English poets."

Early in June, 1862, a deputation of Quakers was introduced to the President, and one of them read a memorial on the subject of slavery, which contained a quotation from a speech of his to the effect that "I believe that this Government cannot permanently endure half slave and half free," the deduction being made that in not abolishing slavery he had neglected his acknowledged duty. Taking the memorial in his hand, he replied:—

"It is true that on the 17th of June, 1858, I said, 'I believe that this Government cannot permanently endure half slave and half free,' but I said it in connexion with other things, from which it should not have been separated in an address discussing moral obligations; for this is a case in which the repetition of half a truth, in connexion with the remark just made, produces the effect of a whole falsehood."

On another occasion he had to deal with a female Quaker preacher, the burden of whose address to him was that the Lord had appointed him to abolish slavery forthwith:—

"Has the Friend finished?" said the President, as she ceased to speak. Having received an affirmative answer, he said: 'I have neither time nor disposition to enter into discussion with the Friend, and end this occasion by suggesting for her consideration the question whether, if it be true that the Lord has appointed me to do the work she has indicated, it is not probable that He would have communicated knowledge of the fact to me as well as to her.'"

Some ministers from Chicago called upon Lincoln in September, 1862, on a similar errand, and before leaving one of them made the following personal appeal:—

"What you have said to us, Mr. President, compels me to say to you in reply that it is a message to you from our Divine Master, through me, commanding you, sir, to open the doors of bondage that the slave may go free!"

Mr. Lincoln replied instantly:—

"That may be, sir, for I have studied this question by night and by day, for weeks and for months; but if it is, as you say, a message from your Divine Master, is it not odd that the only channel He could send it by was that round-about route by that awfully wicked city of Chicago?"

Mr. Weldon and Mr. Depew both tell the story of the interview between Lincoln and a deputation of New York millionaires. Mr. Depew's version is the shorter, and, as he got the anecdote from the late Mr.

Schuyler Colfax, who was present, we may repeat his version as the authentic one:—

"The delegation arose one after another, one man stating that he was worth ten million dollars, and another that he represented fifty million dollars, and another that he was worth several million dollars, and represented many times as many millions more; and that they had paid their taxes, subscribed to the Government's loans, and ought to be protected. Mr. Lincoln said: 'Well, gentlemen, the Government has no vessel as yet, that I know of, which can sink the Merrimac, and our resources, both of money and credit, are strained to the utmost. But if I had as much money as you say you have got, and was as "skeered" as you seem to be, I would find means to prevent the Merrimac ever reaching my property.'"

When the war was nearly over, the question of what to do with Mr. Jefferson Davis became an anxious one. General Grant applied to Lincoln to know whether he should try to capture Mr. Davis or connive at his escape. The answer was as follows:—

"I told him the story of an Irishman who had taken the pledge of Father Mathew. He became terribly thirsty, and applied to a bartender for a lemonade, and while it was being prepared he whispered to him, 'And couldn't ye put a little brandy in it all unbeknown to me?' I told Grant if he could let Jeff Davis escape all unbeknown to himself, to let him go. I didn't want him."

A remark of a like character was made with reference to Mr. Jacob Thomson, whom Stanton wished to arrest when on the point of escaping. Lincoln told Mr. Dana, who had come for instructions:—

"Well, I rather guess not. When you have an elephant on hand, and he wants to run away, better let him run."

This is quite as good as the oft-repeated observation about swapping horses when crossing a river.

We have not exhausted the fund of good things in this work, but we have quoted as many specimens as our space will permit. It is utterly impossible to give an adequate notion of the quantity of chaff out of which the grains of wheat must be picked. A careful editor would have drawn his pen through nearly all that has been written by Mr. Boutwell and Mr. Beecher, Mr. Clay and Mr. Ingersoll, and he would not have allowed Mr. J. C. Welling to devote several pages to showing that the Emancipation Proclamation was extra-constitutional. No person whose opinion is of weight doubts that the proclamation was emphatically a war measure, nor can any person be edified by reading that, according to Mr. Welling, "the Emancipation Proclamation did not draw its breath in the serene atmosphere of law. It was born in the smoke of battle, and its swaddling bands were rolled in blood." Mr. Jefferson Brick never spoke or wrote anything finer or more nonsensical.

Record-Evidences among the Archives of the Ancient Abbey of Cluni from 1077 to 1534.
By Sir G. F. Duckett, Bart. (Privately printed.)

To all students of English history it must be a matter of regret that the rise and progress of the various alien priories which formerly flourished in this country have never yet been traced out by a skilful hand, and that the story of their fortunes and the important position they held has not been

fully told. The little volume in which Sir George Duckett has collected together, from the Burgundy MSS. in the National Library, Paris, brief descriptions of various documents relating to the ancient abbey of Cluni and its dependencies in this country, is therefore a valuable addition to our stores of monastic history.

The order of Cluni, which arose out of that of St. Benedict, was introduced into this country by William, Earl of Warren, who in the year 1077 founded a priory at Lewes, in Sussex. This became the principal house of the order in England, and it was speedily followed by others. They were distinct from the other religious houses in this country, they were essentially foreign, and they were subject directly to the mother house of Cluni; and so it was often complained that they were unduly exempt and that their revenues were carried abroad. But in course of time a crisis came, and in the year 1457 the Cluni monks were deprived of their supremacy over all houses of their order in England, and so their influence here ceased.

Although the English possessions of Cluni were numerous, yet only eight houses are mentioned in Sir George Duckett's book, viz., St. Pancras, Lewes; Thetford; Lenton; St. Andrew, Northampton; Bromholm; Montacute; Pontefract; and Paisley in Scotland. The great feature of interest which this book assists in bringing out is not only the intimate relationship which existed between England and the order of Cluni for nearly four centuries, but also the influence which during that time was so strongly felt and frequently reflected.

Cluni stood in the highest favour with the Conqueror; for it is stated that he desired its abbot to send him over a dozen of his monks, "and he would make them all bishops and abbots in the land of his inheritance which God had given him." Henry of Blois, who became Bishop of Winchester in 1129, was previously a monk of Cluni, having been brought up there from his infancy. In 1139 Gilbert Foliot, a monk of Cluni, was chosen abbot of St. Peter's Benedictine monastery, Gloucester. King Stephen, having heard of his fame and his learning, promoted him to this abbey at the desire of Milo the Constable. He afterwards became Bishop of Hereford, and subsequently was translated to the see of London. Another Cluni monk, named Robert, said to be related to King Stephen, was made Abbot of Winchcombe in Gloucestershire; and Adam, a monk of Cluni de Caritate, became Abbot of Evesham about 1160.

It was sometimes remarked that the Cluni monks brought over to England were all foreigners; but if they were, the compliment was returned, when, instead of England having recourse to Cluni, Cluni came to the fenny region of Huntingdonshire, and there seeking out William, the twelfth abbot of the Benedictine house of Ramsey, elected him, in the year 1171, their abbot. This is mentioned in the Ramsey Cartulary now being edited by Mr. W. H. Hart, F.S.A., and another in the Rolls Series. And that the kindly feeling towards Cluni which was thus created in the mind of the Ramsey monks did not readily die out is shown by the fact recorded in the

Close Rolls of the period, that more than fifty years afterwards, on the occasion of a visit to Ramsey, King Henry III., doubtless at the solicitation of his host, ordered that a silver-gilt image of the value of ten marks should be made in his likeness and sent to the Cluniac priory of Bromholm, in Norfolk, in honour of the cross made from fragments of the true cross which was kept there. This cross, by the way, was in its time most celebrated. It was often the object of pilgrimages, and Piers Plowman thus alludes to it in his 'Vision':—

But wenden to Walsingham, and my wif Alis,
And by the Roode of Bromholme bringe me out of dette.

That this gift was made at the suggestion of the Ramsey monks can scarcely be doubted, for it is not probable that the king would have thought of that particular Cluniac priory unless his attention had been directed thither. And it is in this way that the little inner lights of English history are often brought out. The process is laborious, but the results repay the toil. Again, in 1199 Hugh, Abbot of Reading, a learned writer, was made Abbot of Cluni.

We have thus been led to speak at some little length on this part of the subject, viz., the intimate connexion between this country and the order of Cluni, because Sir George Duckett's book is a valuable contribution towards its amplification. As an instance we may refer to the Insuperimus of Earl Warren's second foundation charter of St. Pancras, Lewes, and the confirmation charter of William de Warren, second Earl of Surrey, now for the first time printed by Sir George Duckett. Then there is a mandatory epistle of Peter the Venerable to the order regarding the prayers and oblations to be offered up on the death of the Empress Matilda. This last document testifies, among other things, to a matter of history not hitherto authenticated, the personal appearance of the Empress Matilda.

We are then led to the consideration of a very knotty point, and one which will probably never be thoroughly solved, the parentage of Gundreda, Countess of Warren. Sir George Duckett maintains that this lady was eldest daughter of William I. and Queen Matilda, and he supports this view by appeal to the charters of Lewes Priory. Mr. Stapleton, in the *Archæological Journal* of 1846, held that Matilda, before her marriage with William, was mother of two children, Gerbod and Gundreda, whose father was Gerbod, known as the Advocate of St. Bertin. Mr. E. A. Freeman follows this view. Sir Francis Palgrave considered Gundreda to be a daughter of William.

The subject bristles with difficulties, and it appears to us, after mature consideration, that the arguments in all directions are at equipoise. If it is asked, as it has been, Why should William choose a widow for his wife? we have the cases of his predecessors Eadmund, Cnut, and Harold, all of whom married widows. Then in the 'Chronicle of Tours' Matilda is twice called *puella*, and in Benoit's 'Chronicle of the Dukes of Normandy' she is called *pucele*; but, on the other hand, Emma, widow of Æthelred, afterwards wife of Cnut, was called *virgo*. If, therefore, a married woman may be styled *virgo*, she may, by the same reasoning, be called

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puella. One covers the other. Further, according to Forcellini, *puella* applies both to a married woman and to a mother of children; and everybody remembers Horace's "Virgines nuper nuptæ."

With regard to the validity of the words "filie mee" in William I.'s charter, it is a fair assumption that they are no interpolation, but were written in place of the same words which had disappeared from decay. And, as a question of language, *filia* may apply to a stepdaughter as well as to a daughter. So, as far as this word is concerned, we are no nearer the fact whether Gundreda was daughter or stepdaughter of King William.

The second foundation charter of Earl Warren has been impeached, but although we do not like its Latinity, still, in the present state of the controversy, we see no reason for doubting its genuineness. In upholding this charter Sir George Duckett lays great stress upon his discovery of the *Inspeximus*, yet it must be recollected that the fact of a charter being inspected or confirmed does not prove its validity. If so, the Confirmation Rolls in the Record Office, which were not commenced until the reign of Richard III., would be thorough evidence of the genuineness of every charter therein inspected, from King Æthelbert of Kent downwards. But, on the other hand, we are distinctly opposed to the wholesale condemnation of charters in which writers of the past generation, and among them notably Kemble, have indulged. For some judicious observations on this point we would refer to Mr. Walter de Gray Birch's introduction to his 'Anglo-Saxon Cartulary.' In order to settle the genuineness of a charter a scholar must have before him the whole of the evidence, and even then doubt may lurk.

However, whatever may be the result of the vexed question of Gundreda's parentage, we are none the less indebted to Sir George Duckett for his interesting little book.

Sultan Stork, and other Stories and Sketches.
By William Makepeace Thackeray. (Redway.)

In a recent literary controversy one of the disputants had recourse to the index to his adversary's book in order to convict him of error. So, to compare small things with great, it is only by means of the index and a note on p. viii of the book now under review that we learn who is responsible for this collection of Thackeray's writings. The title-page bears no editor's name, even the "Introduction by the Editor" is unsigned, and the reader begins to wonder whether the editor is ashamed of his work, or whether—which would seem to be improbable—the work is not proud of its editor. Thanks, however, to the note and the index, we find that the book is produced under the auspices of Mr. R. H. Shepherd, whose name is well known in connexion with similar undertakings.

It may be within the memory of our readers that some three or four years ago a collection of Thackeray's scattered writings, in two volumes, was announced by Mr. Shepherd as in contemplation. The promise was not fulfilled, and it was understood that legal steps were taken by the owners of Thackeray's copyrights to prevent its fulfilment. It seemed at the time to be difficult to understand how the reissue of

writings the copyright in which had expired could be prevented by legal proceedings, or how anybody could seriously propose to print copyright matter without the consent of its owners.

It would now appear that it was not owing to legal proceedings that the publication of Mr. Shepherd's intended volumes was deferred, for he says in his introduction that it was not until after the two volumes of Thackeray's collected writings had been issued last year by Messrs. Smith & Elder that he found the production of this present volume forced upon him. "At any rate it seemed to us," he writes,

"with every desire to leave the territory, if possible, in possession of its aboriginal occupants, that the two volumes heralded with such a flourish of trumpets were very far from being either satisfactory or exhaustive."

Now the readers of the *Athenæum* know what our opinion of the two volumes issued by Messrs. Smith & Elder was and is. They showed, on the part of their editor, much ignorance of Thackeray's writings and a sad want of discrimination and critical taste. Many things were included that had been better omitted, while some few things were omitted that might with advantage have been included. Of the contents of Mr. Shepherd's volume, some come under each of these heads, and some under a third head, as we shall presently explain.

Admirers of Thackeray may be grateful for a reprint of 'Sultan Stork,' and, as a specimen of his powers in this direction, for the reproduction of the review of Carlyle's 'French Revolution,' which originally appeared in the *Times* on the 3rd of August, 1837. The authority for ascribing it to Thackeray's pen is a letter from Carlyle himself, from which we quote:—

"The writer is one Thackeray, a half monstrous Cornish giant, kind of painter, Cambridge man and Paris newspaper correspondent, who is now writing for his life in London..... His article is rather like him, and I suppose calculated to do the book good."

'Dickens in France,' too, was worth reproduction from *Fraser's Magazine*; but surely nothing save the desirability of making a book of a certain size could have led anybody to care to reprint for the public the pieces here given from the *National Standard* and the *Pictorial Times*. These and other pieces must certainly take their place in the second class before mentioned of pieces that should have been omitted from a permanent collection of Thackeray's early writings.

But the gravest indictment we have to bring against those responsible for this volume is that they have included (as has nobody before them) writings the authorship of which is, to put the matter mildly, exceedingly doubtful. The trifling contributions here reprinted from the *Snob* may, or may not, have come from Thackeray's pen; but 'Elizabeth Brownrigge: a Tale,' originally appearing in *Fraser's Magazine*, is here reprinted, and occupies about one-third of the volume. The editor himself evidently doubted its authorship, and we understand him to imply that, on that account, he excluded it from the first issue of his 'Bibliography'; but he now includes it on the strength of certain imaginings of the late Dr. John Brown, which appeared in the *North British Review* for February, 1864, and a

letter from Mr. A. C. Swinburne, here reprinted, which reads as follows:—

"And just before 'Catherine' appeared another burlesque or grotesque horror—'Elizabeth Brownrigge,' a story in two parts, which ought to be Thackeray's, for, if it is not, he stole the idea, and to some extent the style, of his parodies on novels of criminal life, from this first sketch of the kind."

This letter is dated December 4th, 1880; and from a subsequent letter, here reprinted, under date July 3rd, 1886, Mr. Swinburne seems to have repented of his former statement, as he thus writes:—

"Still, on reading it again, I am half sorry that this burlesque should be revived—though no doubt it is not wanting in cleverness of a rather coarse kind."

The mischief was, however, done, and the story is here reprinted under Thackeray's name. We can, therefore, not resist inquiring why Mr. Swinburne says that 'Elizabeth Brownrigge' appeared "just before" 'Catherine.' The one appeared in September, 1832, and the other in November, 1839, and February, 1840. Thackeray was only just of age when 'Elizabeth Brownrigge' was printed; he was not then regularly engaged in literary work, but was travelling, spending his money and completing his education, as was then the custom of young men of means; and finally, so far as we can see (and we say it with all possible deference to the opinion of Mr. Swinburne), there is little or nothing that resembles Thackeray's style in the story, while it is only to be expected that Thackeray's views towards 'Eugene Aram' and other similar works should have been taken from, or affected by, those of older writers. On the other hand, we willingly refer the supporters of Thackeray's authorship of 'Elizabeth Brownrigge' to the following passage from a review of 'England and America,' which appeared in the *National Standard* for the 28th of December, 1833, and was very likely written by him:—

"Let us now turn to another, exhibiting the state of the children: 'In the reign of George III. one Elizabeth Brownrigg [sic] was hanged for beating and starving to death her parish apprentices.'"

The story of 'Elizabeth Brownrigge' may or may not have been written by Thackeray. We do not deny his authorship, but we doubt it, and we protest against it being assumed on such evidence, or rather in the absence of evidence, that the author of 'Vanity Fair,' 'Barry Lyndon,' and 'Esmond' was also the author of 'Elizabeth Brownrigge.' Men who have written as Thackeray has written, who have made a name such as his, cannot hope to avoid the penalties as well as the rewards of fame. Their immature efforts will inevitably be unearthed, and, as time goes on, will be reproduced; industrious bibliographers, ardent admirers and collectors, will spend their time and money and find much harmless amusement in seeking for unsuspected trifles, and in speculating as to this or that anonymous writing owing its existence to the master hand. This is inevitable, nay, right and proper enough; but, in the name of all that is fair, let us, whether we be great authors ourselves or humble bibliographers and admirers of the great, carefully and con-

scientifically weigh evidence, cross-examine witnesses, and arrive at near to certainty as human fallibility will allow before we reprint as the work of a writer like Thackeray a tale so unworthy of his genius as is 'Elizabeth Brownrigge.'

NOVELS OF THE WEEK.

Playing with Fire: a Story of the Soudan War. By James Grant. 3 vols. (Ward & Downey.)

A Freak of Fate. By Edward F. Spence. (White & Co.)

Between Man and Wife. By E. M. Davy. (Same publishers.)

The Gates of Eden. By Annie S. Swan. (Edinburgh, Oliphant, Anderson & Ferrier.)

Roland Blake. By S. Weir Mitchell. (Edinburgh, Douglas.)

MR. GRANT is a most prolific author, and his works enjoy a certain sort of popularity among a certain not very discriminating class of readers. He boldly disregards probabilities, and indulges lavishly in the most stirring incidents. Alike to a soldier, a student of history, and to one who knows the manners of educated people, 'Playing with Fire' is distinctly irritating, as, indeed, almost all of the writer's later novels are. His epithets are frequently clumsy. A young officer is described as having by his cool indifference to the charms of a pretty cousin "twitted" her. She is spoken of a few pages later as being dressed "in the most becoming of matutinal costumes," and her rival has, we are told, "languorous green eyes." The author speaks, too, of a man going out to shoot partridges with a rifle! Several of the *dramatis personæ* are officers, but they talk like officers on the stage, and not like officers in real life. For instance, they are always, when referring to any one belonging to the regiment, using the phrase "of ours," which is by no means a customary phrase in the present day. Mr. Grant's chronology becomes rather confused when treating of the recent campaigns in Egypt, and, rashly using his knowledge of Turkish, he says "the Amir Ali, or colonel commanding the Egyptian force," &c. He is not more at home as regards English titles, for he speaks of Lord Charles Beresford as "Lord Beresford."

The interest of 'A Freak of Fate' is mostly criminal, partly "spookical," partly epileptic, and wholly bewildering, unnatural, and ridiculous. The hero, who is also the victim, is unsatisfactory from first to last—from his birth in a railway accident to his apotheosis on the gallows tree; but the editor of his (supposed) confessions is so overwhelmed with reverence for his "noble but disordered intellect" as to be incapable of any but an attitude of admiration and respect. A little learning is a dangerous thing; it was a very little which (in combination with epilepsy) wrecked the career of this miserable youth. His editor—an impressionable one—has let it all stand, and refused to spare his readers. To him the mental prowess of this "materialist and atheist" seems so immense as to sanctify his idlest word. It lends a glory, for instance, to his hero's comparison of the influence upon him of his Agatha to the action of the lungs upon the heart; it makes him print a lot of verbiage on jealousy, the

affections, and other burning topics; it prevents him from shortening a lingering, long-drawn narrative of an episode in the manner of Arthur Gordon Pym. He is a reverent and careful editor; but his ideas of art are crude. The great thing in the book is the creation of the "spookical" uncle. He is a mystery, and may be commended to the attention of the profoundest minds. It is clear that by his own rash act he resolved himself into spookism, the better to haunt, pursue, and ruin his materialistic nephew. But it is not clear if he was a high-class "spook" from the beginning, or if he was at any period of his career a living entity. He is a problem for Messrs. Myers and Gurney; and to them we leave him. Other points to note are the murder of Agatha and the hero's epileptic visions. They are too unpleasantly strong for the author of such rigmarole as 'A Freak of Fate,' and one wonders where he got them.

The material of 'Between Man and Wife' is a short and painful domestic drama, which turns on the too faithful keeping of a dead somebody's secret by a living somebody else. The rash being—in this case he is a colonel—who does the interfering is only responsible for a part of the trouble; for, in spite of a certain attractiveness in the little person who keeps the secret not wisely, but too well, and of the sympathy excited by her case, her story is exasperating, as are all of its kind. Here, as always, one clamours for a little judgment and common sense on the part of the heroine's husband, who, were he anything but the common husband of fiction, would instantly have broken the spell of her silence and tamed the unfriendly ardour of the "colonel." As this is wanting, one person has to commit suicide, another to go mad, and everybody has to be enveloped, as it were, in an atmosphere of lamentation and mourning and woe, ere the happiness of the young couple is restored and its destroyer, the misguided, repentant, but most objectionable colonel, allowed to make his peace.

Readers who are not repelled by an uncompromising use of Scotch dialect will find 'The Gates of Eden,' in its earlier chapters at least, marked by all the good qualities of Miss Swan's previous books. The dialogue is admirably picturesque and racy of the soil, and the homely surroundings of the Bethune family are drawn with a genial and sympathetic touch. The rise of the two brothers in the social scale is, however, attended with the most disappointing results to the reader. He is introduced to persons of quality and refinement who converse in the most correct and stilted English. Miss Lorraine—who remarks that she knows not "how any one can see aught of beauty in the precursors of decay"—and her stern father are so elegant and so unreal that it is difficult to believe that they are the creations of the same writer who has photographed in this and other works the types of Scotch peasant life with such happy fidelity.

In appearance Mr. Mitchell's new book does not differ very much from other stories by Americans of note on which it is modelled; but it has no individuality of its own, and can hardly be said to have any real existence. There is some cleverness of a kind, with a good deal of careful but not strikingly vivid portraiture, and every symptom of an

overstrained desire to represent ordinary talk and surroundings with unnecessary clearness and acumen. It is not a particularly good book, and it is far from being a bad one; but as careful observation of certain phases of character is its best quality, and as it is terribly overweighted with awkward and cumbrous attempts at pregnancy of expression and depth of meaning, it deserves no special consideration.

CHRISTMAS BOOKS.

Seeking his Fortune: a Tale for Boys. (Griffith, Farran & Co.)

The White Chief of the Caffres. By Major-General A. W. Drayson, late R.A. (Routledge & Sons.)

Mischievous Jack and his Friends: a True Story. By C. E. L. (Griffith, Farran & Co.)

Our Aubrey: a Schoolgirl's Story. By E. C. Phillips. (Same publishers.)

Gladys Ramsay, a Soldier's Daughter: a Story for Girls. By Mrs. M. Douglas. (Same publishers.)

The Unwelcome Guest: a Story for Girls. By Esme Stuart. (Same publishers.)

The Bairs' Annual. Edited by Alice Corkran. (Field & Tuer.)

The Moon Maiden, and other Stories. By Jeany E. Greenwood. (Macmillan & Co.)

Puck and Pearl. By Frederika Macdonald. (Chapman & Hall.)

Temple's Trial. By Evelyn Everett-Green. (Nelson & Sons.)

Daughters of Italy. By Caroline Gearey. (Simpkin, Marshall & Co.)

Quentin Durward. By Sir W. Scott. With Illustrations. (Ward & Lock.)

'SEEKING HIS FORTUNE,' which announces itself as a tale for boys, proves to be a collection of stories, quite readable, but with an old-fashioned smack about them, and curiously unlike each other. The first tale deals with Austria in the Middle Ages, the second and third are Russian fairy tales, the fourth is a homely English story of the beginning of the present century, while the last is a romantic and involved rigmarole which calls itself 'The Law Student's Story.'

'The White Chief of the Caffres' is a good rattling tale of adventure after the style of the late Capt. Mayne Reid.

Mischievous Jack is a jackdaw whose pranks are exceedingly amusing. His home is in a country parsonage, and from that coign of vantage the writer, Jack's mistress, observes the village folk and their ways, and gives us many a good story. There are several capital illustrations by Ernest Griest.

The history of "our Aubrey's" childhood is chronicled by his elder sister in loving style. Aubrey is a dear little boy, and terribly unlucky even for the hero of a "schoolgirl's story."

'Gladys Ramsay' appears as a story for a girl. It is a somewhat affected and sentimental history, in which the heroine poses from the first page to the last. The book is "profusely illustrated" by Miss Anne Beal.

'The Unwelcome Guest,' also a story for girls, is of very different stuff. Jennifer Brabyn is a charming creation, and the wild Cornish ways form an effective background.

'The Bairs' Annual,' edited by Alice Corkran, is one of the most fascinating volumes for children that we have seen for a long time. Among the contributors are Mrs. Richmond Ritchie, Mrs. W. K. Clifford, Mrs. Macquoid, and other well-known names. The stories are charmingly illustrated with marginal sketches of child-life, chiefly by Miss Lizzie Lawson.

'The Moon Maiden' is one of three fantastic fairy stories, which form a young lady's first contribution to the literature of children. We trust they will prove popular.

'Puck and Pearl: the Wanderings and Wanderings of Two English Children in India,' is a very pleasing and instructive little book, giving Indian

customs and of view.

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Miss Everett-Green's 'Temple's Trial' is a good story, though we chafe now and then at the misunderstandings and injustice dealt out to the hero.

'Daughters of Italy,' by Caroline Gearey, is a collection of short biographies, consisting of the lives of Olympia Morata, Anna of Este, Marie Thérèse of Savoy, and Julietta, Marchioness of Barolo. The author is exceedingly painstaking, she tells her story in a simple, plain, and straightforward manner, and she has succeeded in producing a very readable book. We strongly recommend 'Daughters of Italy' as a gift-book for girls.

Messrs. Ward & Lock's edition of Scott's romance is published in conjunction with a Paris house, we think MM. Didot. 'Quentin Durward' decidedly lends itself to the clever French illustrators employed on the work.

THEOLOGICAL BOOKS.

Old-Latin Biblical Texts.—No. II. *Portions of the Gospels according to St. Mark and St. Matthew.* From the Bobbio MS. (k), now numbered G. vii. 15 in the National Library at Turin, together with other Fragments of the Gospels from Six MSS. in the Libraries of St. Gall, Coire, Milan, and Berne (usually cited as n, o, p, a, s, and t). Edited with the Aid of Tischendorf's Transcripts, and the Printed Texts of Ranke, Ceriani, and Hagen, with Two Facsimiles, by John Wordsworth, D.D., W. Sanday, D.D., and H. J. White, M.A. (Oxford, Clarendon Press.)—We have printed the title of this book pretty nearly in full. It evidently cost the editors considerable pains to concoct it, and yet it is both misleading and defective. The work is really divided into two quite distinct parts, and we deem it a matter of regret that these two parts were not kept quite separate. The first part supplies authentic texts of old-Latin versions of the New Testament, and full notices of the manuscripts from which they are derived. These texts are all mentioned in the title. The first, called the Bobbio MS., contains a considerable portion of St. Mark and St. Matthew. It has already been twice edited. The task of re-editing has been undertaken by the Bishop of Salisbury, and he has executed it with the utmost care and diligence. Every minute particular about the manuscript was investigated, and the results are accurately detailed in this volume. His account contains a large amount of interesting information in regard to the history of manuscripts. A facsimile of the codex is given. The second set of fragments consists of fourteen leaves from a MS. in a library of St. Gall, containing portions of St. Matthew and St. Mark, and a leaf and a fragment from St. John belonging to the same manuscript, but now placed in another library in St. Gall (n); one leaf containing a portion of St. Mark (o), and two leaves containing a portion of St. John (p), belonging to different manuscripts. Mr. H. J. White has edited and described these fragments: p had been edited before, and Tischendorf had left transcripts of them all, of which Mr. White had the use; but he has examined the manuscripts for himself, and has done his work very effectively. A facsimile of a portion of n is given. There are other three fragments printed in the volume. These three had been already edited, and are here reprinted from the editions of Ranke, Ceriani, and Hagen. The Bernensian fragments edited by Hagen are found in a palimpsest, and it is, therefore, difficult to obtain certainty in regard to the readings. In these circumstances Mr. White or the Bishop (for we are not told which) has in some cases suggested different readings from those adopted by Hagen. The first part, which we have now described, is of the utmost use to scholars and theologians, and a great benefit is conferred by bringing these fragments together and giving

full and accurate details in regard to them. We think that this portion ought to have been published separately, and thus rendered easily accessible to all. The second portion consists of minute investigations into "the relation of the text of these fragments to that of other old-Latin manuscripts," and is the production of Dr. Sanday. Most of these essays contain long lists of words or of texts, and they are nearly all tentative in character. Dr. Sanday deprecates "premature theorizing." In fact, all the materials must be collected and sifted before sound conclusions can be drawn. Thus in the very first paper, on the relation of k and Cyprian, it is first necessary to be sure in regard to the text of Cyprian. Dr. Sanday found himself compelled to adopt mainly the text of Hartel; but in the appendix an account is given of four manuscripts of Cyprian now in Oxford, which, when collated, are supposed likely to contribute greatly to a good text. Dr. Sanday, moreover, relies much on the 'Testimonia' for his comparisons; but the question has to be settled first whether the 'Testimonia' is a genuine work of Cyprian's. The tables which detail the peculiarities of style and diction, and the paleography and orthography, of the fragments are of great use. Indeed, there ought to be complete indexes of these points to each fragment. This portion of the work must have entailed heavy labour on Dr. Sanday, and both he and Mr. White, who assisted him in it, deserve the best thanks of scholars.

Corpus Scriptorum Ecclesiasticorum Latinorum.—*Eugippii Vita Sancti Severini.* Recensuit et Commentario Critico instruxit Pius Knoell. (Vienna, Gerold.)—The life of Severinus is one of those curious biographies of the fifth century saints in which miracles are attested by eye-witnesses. It throws a flood of light on the state of mind in which Christians were at that period, when the craving for the miraculous began to be overpowering. The tractate of Eugippius has received considerable attention from scholars in modern times, but it may be safely said that Knoell has furnished us with the best edition. His critical apparatus is based on seven MSS. and fragments of three others. He divides these MSS. into two classes, and, in opposition to previous editors, places the Codex Taurinensis at the head of the better class. In constituting the text he has followed this MS. with almost slavish scrupulosity, only in a few instances adopting the readings given in other manuscripts. In justification of his procedure he appeals to a paper which he read before the Academy of Vienna; but it seems to us that the vehemence with which he has attacked the Codex Lateranensis, on which Sauppe's text was based, has disturbed the clearness of his vision in dealing with the materials which he has collected. To take one instance: Eugippius relates that many nobles praised the king in terms of the strongest flattery. Severinus asked what king they thus praised. The nobles replied 'Odoacer.' Then the Codex Lateranensis goes on: "Odoacer integer inter tredecim et quattuordecim annos, videlicet integritatem ejus regni significans." The meaning plainly is that Severinus, on hearing the name Odoacer, added a prophecy in regard to him which pointed out his frailty: "Odoacer, who was to be safe and sound between thirteen and fourteen years," alluding to the entire period of his reign. Knoell thus constitutes the text: "Odoacer, inquit integer tredecim et quattuordecim annos, [annos] videlicet integri ejus regni significans." Here the omission of *inter* would render the change of *et* into *vel* absolutely necessary if there is to be historical accuracy. Knoell has to supply a word not found in any manuscript, *annos*, and no gain is obtained in the sense. Knoell supposes that *integritatem* is the work of a corrector. Both MSS. belong to the tenth century, so that there is no superiority in point of time. Knoell occasionally introduces conjectures. Some of these are doubtful. Thus he has admitted into the text a conjecture of

Hartel in the sentence "*secreta pectoris satisfactionibus prodiderunt*," inserting *satisfactionibus* for *satisfactionibus*, which he pronounces plainly corrupt. *Satisfactio* does not occur in Latin, but *satisfagere* often occurs in the sense of "to be distressed, disturbed, agitated." But we question whether, with *satisfactio* in the sense of *perturbatio*, the sentence reads as well as what the transcribers evidently intended the sentence to mean with *satisfactionibus*: "They betrayed the secrets of their breast by the excuses they made." For the edition of excerpts from St. Augustine which we noticed a short time ago Knoell had several manuscripts belonging to the seventh and eighth centuries. For the life of Severinus there is none earlier than the tenth. It would be reasonable to expect that Knoell should determine the mode of spelling by that of the earlier manuscripts, but so enamoured is he of the Codex Taurinensis that he adopts its spelling in almost all cases when it differs from that of the early manuscripts of the 'Excerpta.' But whatever may be our opinion as to the skill with which Knoell has used his materials, all praise is due to him for the accuracy and diligence with which he has gathered them and made them available for students. Knoell has paid particular attention to all the facts that can throw light on the Latin of the writer and of the transcribers, and his edition is a valuable contribution to the means which we possess for tracing the history of the language.

Corpus Scriptorum Ecclesiasticorum Latinorum.—*Luciferi Calaritani Opuscula.* Recensuit et Commentario Critico instruxit Gulielmus Hartel. (Vienna, Gerold.)—Hartel has supplied us with a very valuable addition to the Corpus of the Latin Fathers now publishing at Vienna in this edition of the works of Lucifer, Bishop of Cagliari in Sardinia. Somehow or other this father has had scant justice done to him in recent times, for in the last history of Latin Christian literature, that by Adolf Ebert, no reference is made to him at all. Yet his works deserve the careful attention of the historian. No man was more rabid in his zeal for dogma, and his writings exhibit in the fullest and most uncompromising manner the arguments which prevailed in those times for using the utmost physical violence in extirpating all who differed from the writer in even the smallest dogmatic point. The text is derived from only one manuscript, and Hartel has had a task to do for Lucifer somewhat like that which Lachmann performed for Lucretius. The investigations of Roensch and others into the Latinity of the third and subsequent centuries have brought out, and are still bringing out, a large body of facts in regard to forms and meanings unknown to a previous generation, and by the light of these much can be done to make the new editions of the Latin Fathers more accurate. Hartel has already done admirable work in his editions of Cyprian and Ennodius, and the present edition of Lucifer is worthy of his reputation. His preface supplies much valuable and often new information in regard to the Latinity of the period.

DR. HERMANN DALTON'S *John a Lasco, his Earlier Life and Labours*, was worth translating, and the Rev. Maurice J. Evans has done the work, on the whole, creditably, though, like most translators, he has not succeeded altogether in writing English. There is, for instance, on p. 26 a sentence in which the author proposes to tell "the story of a renowned member of the family, as this has been put together by us from sources widely removed, and often of exceeding scanty outflow"; or, again, p. 57, "How gladly, however, would we pierce the taciturn obscurity," &c. The book itself gives an intelligent account of the state of Poland in the early part of the sixteenth century, and of the religious circumstances in which John a Lasco was brought up. It describes his studies abroad—at Rome, Bologna, Basle, and Paris—and continues his

biography down to the time when, after having been promoted to the archdeaconry of Warsaw, he found himself compelled to separate from the Catholic Church. A Lasco supplies a highly characteristic specimen of the way in which in his day humanism tended to Protestantism; but Dr. Dalton adds little life to the story, and hardly, indeed, betrays much interest in humanism until it has actually become Protestant. His narrative is throughout written too much in the spirit of a sect. The second division of the book is concerned with the reformer's life after he left Poland, and settled for a while at Mayence, Louvain, and Emden, until, after a short visit to England, he resolved to take up his residence permanently in this country. At this point, in 1550, the biography stops short; and we are referred to a possible continuation of it for an account of the succeeding eventful years, during which John a Lasco took an influential share in the ecclesiastical politics of Edward VI.'s time, and not less among the Protestant exiles in the reign of Queen Mary. The English reader will, therefore, miss in the present work that part of A Lasco's biography which would be of most interest to him. Dr. Dalton has used his materials with care, and his translator has added some notes and references of his own. There are some small mistakes in Polish names; and while admitting, of course, that "Laski" is the correct form, we do not quite understand why Dr. Dalton should so write the name of his subject almost everywhere in his book and yet keep the Latin form on the title-page. Nor can it be said to be a happy system of transliteration which produces such a monstrosity as "Zbjgniew." Messrs. Hodder & Stoughton are the publishers.

THE seventeenth volume just issued completes the new edition of Herzog's *Encyclopedia of Protestant Theology*. Another volume is to have an index to the whole. In an appendix we find a notice of Bishop Butler, whose name did not appear in the first edition, nor in its proper place in the present one. Hinrichs of Leipzig is the publisher.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

THE high authority of Scripture is not wanting for the distinction accorded to the number "forty." Its charm has been exemplified in the East from the earliest historical times. Both in legend and romance the same number is repeatedly used for no apparent reason except its conventional or prescriptive applicability. Not only is this the case with persons, like the "Forty Thieves," of whom we all can speak, but with inanimate objects all over Persia and Afghanistan, like the Chihil Sitin, or Palace of Forty Pillars, in Ispahan; the Chihil Dukhtar, or Shrine of the Forty Virgins, by the Murgháb; or cave of the Chihil Tan near Kabul, known but to a few Eastern travellers. Even in those out-of-the-way regions in which lie the disputed line of Russo-Afghan boundary, Prof. Vambéry writes of a Chihil Gaz, or Forty Yards, interpreted by some as Forty Tamarisks. And now we are introduced, or reintroduced rather, to the *History of the Forty Veirs*; or, the *Story of the Forty Morns and Eves*, written in Turkish by Sheykh Zada, and done into English by Mr. E. J. W. Gibb, the able translator of a volume of Ottoman poems and the story of Jewád. The notion of a king who is diverted every morning from the execution of an innocent son by an appropriate story from the lips of one of his forty wise councillors, and urged again every night to the act by the same device on the part of a wicked queen, is an ingenious, but not uncommon one in the records of Eastern literature. It provides in any case the framework for eighty stories. Mr. Gibb's preface states that he has seen but one (the Constantinople) text with this number; a French version by Belletète published in 1812 had only half, while an India Office MS. omitted four and

a Dresden MS. two of the tales. From the four texts, however, he managed to get "a total of one hundred and ten distinct stories," of which he has translated all save three. The interest of this compilation is naturally not to be compared to that aroused by the ever fresh 'Thousand and One Nights'; but it has had high reputation among particular admirers, and the gentleman to whom we are indebted for this English version—apparently the most complete in any language of Western Europe—merits the thanks of the reading public for the work performed. As regards the date of the original romance there is considerable doubt. The MS. of which the aforesaid Constantinople text is a copy is dedicated to Sultan Mustafa, whom Mr. Gibb supposes to be the first of that name, and who reigned in the first quarter of the seventeenth century; but Belletète's translation was from a much older version dedicated to Sultan Murad II., father to Sultan Muhammad, the conqueror of Constantinople, who flourished 1421-1451. Mr. Redway is the publisher.

Manual Training is set forth in the title-page of Mr. C. H. Ham's work (Blackie & Son) as the solution of social and industrial problems, and so it doubtlessly is of some, perhaps of many; but sober thinkers will hardly admit that it will effect the kind of revolution the author anticipates, nor are the human race and the conditions of its existence so near perfection as he thinks. However, Mr. Ham says: "It is possible and practicable to let every child of fair capacity start in life from his school a skilled worker with the principal tools of all the mechanical employments, an athlete with the maximum of health possible to him, and thoroughly at home in science and literature." This is a very wild assertion. Considering the constitution of "every child," at any rate on this side of the Atlantic, we may dismiss the possibility which is here brought before us, for we are certainly not within measurable distance of its realization. Although we hesitate to approve the writer's Utopian schemes, yet there is much of value in his work, and many suggestive thoughts concerning education and training, whether mental, manual, or moral. The account given of the Chicago Manual Training School is interesting. This institution, however, is first described to the reader in so exaggerated a style that the doubt at once forces itself upon him whether the account be really accurate and trustworthy—is it not, in fact, all too good to be true? "This is the school that Locke dreamed of, that Bacon wished for, that Rousseau described, and that Comenius, Pestalozzi, and Froebel struggled in vain to establish.....For if it be, as claimed, the true school, it is destined to lift the veil from the face of Nature, to reveal her most precious secrets, and to divert to man's use all her treasures. Yes: it is to other schools what the diamond is to other precious stones—the last analysis of educational thought." This, of course, is eminently rhetorical and impressive, although the culmination—"the last analysis of educational thought"—seems to verge upon bathos. The Chicago School is a most admirable and useful foundation, containing well-appointed laboratories for carpenter's work, wood-turning, founding, forging, and the like, and in each of these some two dozen bright healthy lads are working hard under skilled instructors. Whether or not they are "destined to lift the veil from the face of Nature," as Mr. Ham expects, we are not inclined confidently to affirm; but there can be no doubt whatever that many, if not all, of them will become clever handicraftsmen, perhaps shrewd manufacturers, and certainly formidable competitors with European workmen. Mr. Ham regards them "with a sympathetic thrill of satisfaction," and no doubt they are fine young fellows, for "their arms show brawn; the muscles stand out in relief from the solid flesh." It would seem from the general tenor of the book that Mr. Ham is subject to "thrills" of one kind or another, and occasionally his condition seems to us to become almost hysterical.

The intellectual and moral effects of manual training are explained, although the impression produced is marred and weakened by the rhetorical style which Mr. Ham has thought fit to adopt. The prime necessity of the education of women is the subject of a short chapter, in which some few judicious statements may be detected among much exaggerated nonsense about the kindergarten system and Froebel. But here, as elsewhere, readers must wade through so much printed matter to get at a few valuable facts or thoughts, that few will have energy to complete the perusal of the volume. Several chapters are devoted to "Education and the Social Problem," the discussion of which ranges from the days of Egypt and Greece to the present time; and the history of the manual element in education is treated in the closing chapters. The consideration of the relation between education and the social problem brings us face to face with difficult questions in statesmanship and political economy; but Mr. Ham answers them all with the unshaken self-confidence of enthusiasm. In his advocacy of the wider diffusion of technical instruction most people will concur; but further than that it is difficult to go. The "educational revolution" for which Mr. Ham longs is not yet a thing of to-morrow.

MR. CHARLES DALTON has published his little *Memoir of Capt. Dalton, H.E.I.C.S.* (Allen & Co.), his great-grandfather, the brave defender of Trichinopoly in 1752-53, because very few people are aware that much of the credit won by Orme for his 'History of the War in India' was "really due to Dalton," from whose journal he transferred a whole series of detailed extracts into his own work. In his desire to "do justice to the memory of a brave and single-minded soldier" Mr. Dalton, no doubt unwittingly, conveys an impression which the appendix hardly confirms. The parallel passages there quoted serve only to show that Orme made good use of trustworthy materials supplied by a leading actor in the scenes described. He dressed up in his own words the story which Dalton's journal told at greater length. The historian, however, would have done well to indicate his authority; and so far the writer of the memoir has some cause for just complaint. As a record of his ancestor's military services this little volume deserves all praise for the proofs of painstaking research that show themselves in almost every page. To the author it must have been a wearisome, though pleasing labour to rummage out the little details of his narrative from all kinds of dark corners and faded old documents. For ordinary readers the result of these labours will not, we fear, prove particularly attractive. Mr. Dalton's literary skill falling short of his zeal for unearthing facts. But the book contains many curious and some interesting passages, and is full of excellent raw material for the weaving of a true and stirring tale, in which Capt. Dalton would figure prominently as a brave and skilful soldier, worthy of a place beside such men as Clive and Lawrence. A taking likeness of him, copied from a portrait painted by Romney, faces the title-page.

Murray's Magazine, which has been looked for with the curiosity usually excited by a new venture of an old firm, has made an early appearance in order to be out before Christmas. As long ago as 1816, before Blackwood was in existence, the late Mr. Murray talked of starting a monthly, and now, after the lapse of seventy years, his son has carried the idea into execution. The cover of the new periodical is in good taste, and yet has the advantage of being clearly distinguishable from its fellows on a bookseller's counter. The paper is excellent, and the type clear, Mr. Murray wisely eschewing the double columns which were in vogue in 1816. The reader will naturally turn first to the Byroniana, and is sure to be pleased by the letter describing Madame de Stael's visit to London, for, like

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most of Byron's letters, it is thoroughly good—decidedly superior both in vigour and effectiveness to the opening lines to 'Lara,' which are also printed for the first time. Of the articles the two best are 'The Responsibilities of Power,' by Mr. C. A. Whitmore, which advocates the policy of Lord Randolph Churchill in opposition to that favoured by Lord Salisbury in the matter of local government and allotments; and 'Cosmopolitan Theories and Colonial Facts,' by Capt. Colomb. In 'The Uses of Adversity' Mr. George Russell makes so fierce an onslaught on the article on Disestablishment in 'The Radical Programme' that one is inclined to think he does not know who was the author of it. A direct panegyric of Mr. Gladstone is counterbalanced by indirect censure of some of his utterances. An interesting sketch of 'An Irish Parish Priest' is anonymous. Two stories are commenced which it would be unfair to criticize in their present inchoate state. To sum up, the editor may be congratulated on his first number. He has evidently aimed at variety, and he has succeeded in producing in his 144 pages an entertaining miscellany which deserves to meet with popular favour.

The Officer's Pocket-Book for Home and Foreign Service, compiled by William Gordon, 2nd Battalion Gordon Highlanders (late Sergeant-Major 2nd Battalion Scots Guards), published by Messrs. Gale & Polden, of Chatham, in their 'Military Series,' is simply a compilation; it does not pretend to be anything else, and viewed as a compilation it is not without merit. It is more portable and cheap than Lord Wolseley's 'Soldier's Pocket-Book,' but, unlike the latter, it only deals with matters which concern the infantry. In short, its scope is limited, and it may be regarded as nothing better than a memorandum book for sergeants and subalterns of infantry.

We have on our table two biographies of Dissenting ministers. The first of these is *Hugh Stowell Brown: a Memorial Volume*, edited by his son-in-law, W. S. Caine, M.P. (Routledge & Sons). It is rather an amorphous volume. First comes a decidedly interesting autobiography, written with good humour and shrewdness. Then follow extracts from Mr. Brown's commonplace-book, a very miscellaneous collection, containing some clever remarks and excellent stories, such as: "One of Spurgeon's colporteurs writes to me, begging me for the sake of his two masters, C. H. Spurgeon and the Lord Jesus Christ (such is the order of precedence), to help in his work." "The greatest marvel of Moody and Sankey's work is not the conversion of souls to God, but the conversion of Presbyterians to a little tottling American organ." "At a Scotch funeral many friends had been invited, as is the custom, but a neighbour woman who had quarrelled with the family was not included. She watched the funeral pass her door and said, 'Weel, there'll be a funeral perhaps at our house some day, and we'll see wha'll be asked then!'" Then follows a selection from his sermons, highly characteristic discourses. At p. 353 a curious little slip in Greek history has been left uncorrected.—*The Memorials of the Rev. Charles Wicksteed, B.A.*, edited by his son Philip Henry (Williams & Norgate), offers a decided contrast to the book first named. While Mr. Stowell Brown was a vigorous, hard-headed man who troubled himself little about points of dogma, and seldom, we fancy, found time to open a Latin book, Mr. Wicksteed was essentially a student and more or less of an invalid all his life. At Shrewsbury School he received such a grounding in classics under Butler as seldom falls to the lot of a Unitarian minister, and it is not pleasant to find his son drawing such an unfavourable picture of the teacher to whom his father owed much. The biographical sketch is not particularly good. The letters, which are by no means remarkable, are rather too numerous. The sermons at the close will, however, be acceptable to many.

THE most striking thing in the *New Amphion* (Edinburgh, Douglas), the volume published in connexion with the Edinburgh University Fancy Fair, is Mr. Browning's spirited and charming 'Spring Song.' That Prof. Blackie's 'May Song' and other contributions are characteristic need scarcely be said. Dr. George Mac Donald's lines are clever. The other verses designed to move rocks, if rather imitative than original, are creditable to the writers' taste. Of the prose contributions, Mr. Murray's essay on a Greek gem, Mrs. Oliphant's story, Dr. Garnett's apologue, and 'From Yarrow to Edinburgh College,' by Mr. Hay Dunlop, are the most noticeable. The printing is creditable to the University Press.

THE Clarendon Press has converted some of its school-books into a pretty Christmas present. It has dubbed the editions of plays by Corneille, Racine, and others, which Mr. Saintsbury initiated, and which we have noticed as they appeared separately, *Masterpieces of the French Drama*, put them into tasteful parchment (?) covers, left the edges uncut, and enclosed them in a nice leather box. The result is decidedly taking.

THE more we see of Cassell's *National Library* the better we like it. Among the recent additions are 'Peter Plymley's Letters,' Moritz's 'Travels in England' (a most interesting book), Coleridge's 'Confessions of an Inquiring Spirit,' Johnson's 'Journey to the Hebrides,' and other excellent literature. The selection of such books does credit alike to Prof. Morley and the publishers.

The Live Stock Journal Almanac, published by Messrs. Vinton, deserves its reputation. It numbers among its contributors Sir J. B. Lawes, Sir J. Lennard, Mr. J. C. Morton, Prof. Brown, &c.—*The Catholic Family Annual* is an excellent little publication, issued at New York by the Catholic Publication Society.—*The Robert Burns Calendar* (Glasgow, D. Campbell & Sons) has a motto from the poet's works attached to each day in the year. The stout leather back is a decided advantage.

THE "Hammond Type-Writer" is the last addition to the machines devised to supersede the pen. Profiting by the experience of his predecessors, the inventor has improved upon the "Remington" and "Calligraph," which are the best known amongst the quick-working machines. The work produced by the "Hammond" has the advantage of being beautifully regular; indeed, in this respect it is equal to the "Hall," which is the best of the slower working, but very portable machines. For rapidity and regularity of action the "Hammond" appears to surpass any other. When it or any other type-writer is rendered as noiseless as the pen, the limit of invention will have been reached. Though newly introduced into this country, the "Hammond" has been popular in the United States for some years.

We have on our table *Heroes of Science*, by W. Garnett (S.P.C.K.),—*Sententiae Artis, First Principles of Art*, by H. Quilter (Isbister),—*Impressions of Painting*, by C. Adams (New York, Coombes),—*An Elementary Treatise on the Theory of Determinants*, by P. H. Hanus (Boston, U.S., Ginn),—*Les Travailleurs de la Mer*, by V. Hugo, edited by J. Boiello (Rivingtons),—*Short Biographies for the People*, Vol. III. (R.T.S.),—*Fairy Phoebe*, by L. Taylor (Shaw),—*Our Little Ones* (Nelson),—*Peter Parley's Annual for 1887* (B. George),—*The Drawing-Room Fortune-Teller*, by A. E. M. K. (Stevens),—*Madame Tabby's Establishment*, by Kari (Macmillan),—*Early English Voyages* (Nelson),—*To Lake Tanganyika in a Bath Chair*, by Annie B. Hope (Low),—*The King's Thane*, by W. J. Gordon (Warne),—*"Honour is my Guide,"* by J. Hering (Cassell),—*Links of Loving-Kindness*, by the Rev. G. Everard (Nisbet),—*Wisdom - Chips*, by F. E. Hulme (Low),—*Songs of the Woods* (Nelson),—*The Jewish and the Christian Messiah*, by V. H. Stanton (Edinburgh, Clark),—*Religion*, by the

Rev. W. Kirkus (New York, Whittaker),—*Beckonings for Every Day*, by L. Larcom (Ward & Lock),—*La Science des Religions et l'Is-lamisme*, by H. Derenbourg (Paris, Leroux),—*La France en Indo-Chine*, by A. Bouinais and A. Paulus (Paris, Challamel),—*Albrecht Dürer*, by L. Kaufmann (Freiburg, Herder),—*La Tour*, by Champfleury (Paris, Rouam),—*Les Lettres et les Arts*, Vol. I., Nos. II. and III., and Vol. II., No. I. (Paris, Boussod).

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

ENGLISH.

Theology.

Bunyan's *Pilgrim's Progress*, edited with Introduction and Notes by Rev. J. Brown, cr. 8vo. 5/6 cl.
Hallett's (C. M.) *Through the Darkness, or Thoughts for the Perplexed*, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.
Macnaughton's (Rev. S.) *Real Religion and Real Life*, 5/6 cl.
Newton's (Rev. R.) *Bible Warnings, Addresses to Children*, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.
Pictures of St. Peter in an English Home, by A. L. O. E., 5/6 cl.
Rawlinson's (Rev. G.) *Biblical Topography*, 12mo. 2/6 cl.
Stapler's (E.) *Palestine in the Time of Christ*, translated by A. H. Holmden, 8vo. 8/6 cl.
Warfield's (Rev. B. B.) *Introduction to the Textual Criticism of the New Testament*, 12mo. 2/6 cl.

Fine Art and Archaeology.

Dresser's (C.) *Modern Ornamentation*, imp. 4to. 36/6 cl.
Newman's (J. H.) *Lead, Kindly Light*, illustrated by F. Dadd, roy. 16mo. 2/6 cl.
Smith's (J. M.) *Ornamental Interiors, Ancient and Modern*, roy. 8vo. 18/6 cl.
Song of the Three Children (Benedicite Omnia Opera), illustrated by MacWhirter and others, imp. 16mo. 7/6 cl.
Wey's (F.) *Rome*, illustrated, cheaper edition, 4to. 15/6 cl.

Poetry and the Drama.

Gerard's (W.) *Byron restudied in his Dramas, an Essay*, 5/6 cl.
Relauff's (K. F.) *Poems, translated from the Russian* by T. H. Davies, cr. 8vo. 5/6 cl.
Tennyson's *Dramatic Works*, Miniature Edition, 4 vols. 10/6 cl.

History and Biography.

Alexander (W. L.), *his Life and Work*, with Illustrations of his Teaching, cr. 8vo. 7/6 cl.
Herbert's (J. E.) *Short History of Ireland, from the Earliest Period to 1798*, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.
Lyte's (H. C. M.) *History of the University of Oxford, from the Earliest Times to the Year 1530*, 8vo. 16/6 cl.
Ranke's (L. von) *History of the Latin and Teutonic Nations, 1494-1574*, trans. by Ashworth, 3/6. (Bohn's Stan. Lib.)
Simpson (Sir J. Y.), *Leaves from Life of the Man of Science, the Man of God*, cr. 8vo. 2/6 cl.

Geography and Travel.

Feilden's (E. W.) *My African Home, or Bush Life in Natal*, cr. 8vo. 7/6 cl.
Howson (J. F.) and Rimmer's (A.) *The River Dee, its Aspect and History*, cheaper edition, 4to. 7/6 cl.
Radford's (G.) *Rambles by Yorkshire Rivers*, cr. 4to. 14/6 cl.

Philology.

De Fivas's (Dr. V.) *Elementary French Grammar*, 12mo. 2/6 cl.
Ebers's (G.) *Eine Frage*, edited with Introduction and Notes by F. Storr, cr. 8vo. 2/6 cl.
Mayor's *Edition of Juvenal*, Vol. 1, Supplement to, cr. 8vo. 5/6 cl.
Schiller's *Die Jungfrau von Orleans*, edited by J. L. Bevir, 2/6 cl.

Science.

Björling's (P. R.) *Practical Handbook on Pump Construction*, cr. 8vo. 5/6 cl.
Capell's (Rev. A. D.) *Key to Tips in Algebra*, cr. 8vo. 7/6 cl.
Edwards's (J.) *Differential Calculus, an Elementary Treatise*, cr. 8vo. 10/6 cl.
Gordon's (C. A.) *New Theory and Old Practice in Relation to Medicine*, &c., cr. 8vo. 2/6 cl.
Hardaway's (B. H.) *Pocket-Book of Tables and Formulae for Railroad Engineers*, cr. 8vo. 7/6 cl.
Kennedy's (A. B. W.) *Mechanics of Machinery*, cr. 8vo. 12/6 cl.

General Literature.

Barr's (A. E.) *Bow of Orange Ribbon*, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.
Bedford's (L.) *Poor Laurette*, cr. 8vo. 10/6 cl.
Books for a Reference Library, 1st Series, Fine-Paper Edition, 8vo. 7/6 cl.
Children's Mirror, a Treasury of Stories, by Cousin Kate, 3/6 cl.
Colbert's (S.) *The Unlucky Number*, a Novel, cr. 8vo. 6/6 cl.
Cornwall's (N.) *Grannie Tresawna's Story*, cr. 8vo. 2/6 cl.
Daunt's (A.) *Our Sea Coast Heroes*, cr. 8vo. 2/6 cl.
Dowling's (R.) *The Weird Sisters*, cr. 8vo. 2/6 bds.
Eastman's (Rev. P. M.) *The Little Ones' Text-Book*, 2/6 cl.
Greene's (Hen. Mrs.) *The Phantom Pictures*, cr. 8vo. 2/6 cl.
Haggard's (H. R.) *She, a History of Adventures*, cr. 8vo. 6/6 cl.
Hammond's (E. P.) *Roger's Travels, the Journey of Two Boys in Foreign Lands*, cr. 8vo. 2/6 cl.
Heine's (H.) *Travel Pictures*, translated by F. Storr, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl. (Bohn's Standard Library.)
Hoffmann's (Prof.) *Drawing-Room Conjuring*, cr. 8vo. 2/6 cl.
Jubilee Birthday Book, 2/6 cl.
Keene's (J. H.) *Fishing Tackle, its Materials and Manufacture*, cr. 8vo. 5/6 cl.
Lowell's (J. E.) *Democracy, and other Addresses*, cr. 8vo. 5/6 cl.
Marx's (K.) *Capital*, trans. by S. Moore and E. Aveling, ed. by F. Engels, 2 vols. 8vo. 30/6 cl.
Morison's (J.) *The Purpose of the Ages*, cr. 8vo. 9/6 cl.
New Graft on the Family Tree, by Fanny, cr. 8vo. 2/6 cl.
Parsons's (C. R.) *Purity and Power*, cr. 8vo. 2/6 cl.
Pease's (A. E.) *The Cleveland Hounds as a Trencher-Fed Pack*, 8vo. 18/6 cl.
Perry's (O. L.) *Rank and Badges, Precedence, Salutes, Colours, and Small Arms in the Army and Navy*, 6/6 cl.
Tiddeman's (L. E.) *In the Leafy Month of June*, a Novel, 6/6 cl.
Tinsley's (L. A.) *A Woman's Revenge*, cr. 8vo. 2/6 bds.
Yate's (Lieut. A. C.) *England and Russia Face to Face in Asia*, 8vo. 21/6 cl.
Zola's (E.) *A Love Episode, a Realistic Novel*, cr. 8vo. 6/6 cl.

FOREIGN.

Theology.

Bibliotheca Samaritana, Part 3, 3m. 50.
Ephraem Syri Hymni et Sermones, ill. D. T. J. Lamy, Vol. 2, 20m.

Luther's Werke. Kritische Gesamtausg., Vol. 4, 18m.
Wattenbach (W.): Die Inquisition gegen die Waldenser in Pommern u. der Mark Brandenburg, 4m.

Fine Art and Archaeology.

Furtwaengler (A.) u. Loeschke (G.): Mykenische Vasen, 115m.
Giel (C.): Beiträge zur Antiken Numismatik Südrusslands, 6m.

History and Biography.

Bornhak (G.): Geschichte der Französischen Litteratur, 9m.
Hunfalvy (F.): Neuere Erscheinungen der Rumänischen Geschichtsschreibung, 6m.

Philology.

Ciceronis Scripta quae Manserunt Omnia, recogn. C. F. W. Mueller, Vol. 3, Part 2, 2m. 10.
Colizza (G.): Lingua 'Afar nel Nord-Est dell' Africa, 6m.

Geffcken (J.): De Stephano Byzantio Capita Duo, 1m. 50.

Science.

Fraenkel (C.): Grundriss der Bakterienkunde, 8m.
Heitzmann (C. u. J.): Compendium der Chirurgie, Vol. 2, 15m.

Kröner (E.): Das Körperliche Gefühl, 6m.

ROGERS'S LETTERS.

13, Tavistock Square, Dec. 21, 1833.

MORE than two years ago you were good enough to announce that I was preparing for publication a large number of letters addressed to the late Mr. Rogers by many eminent persons, and your announcement gave me much help in the almost endless task of getting the permission of the heirs of the writers for the publication of the letters.

In the course of that work I have had sent to me some most interesting letters from Rogers himself. There is reason to believe that many more exist in collections of autographs and among the private papers of families, and I shall be obliged if you will give me space to ask the owners of such letters if they will kindly send to me, or allow me to take, copies of them.

P. W. CLAYDEN.

STELLA'S DUBLIN PROPERTY.

December 18, 1886.

THE following abstract of a deed of assignment between Stella and Swift has, I believe, escaped notice. It was found by Mr. Horace Wilson in the Dublin register. Stella was christened Hester, but this document shows that she had adopted the spelling Esther, which her biographers have generally followed. Another noticeable point is that she is styled "spinster," although the deed is subsequent by five years to that formal ceremony of marriage which Mr. Craik, not without strong reason, considers proved beyond doubt. The retention of the term, however, establishes nothing more than the fact that the marriage was kept a profound secret.

STANLEY LANE-POOLE.

Deed Indented bearing date 28th day of November, 1721, made between Esther Johnston, of the city of Dublin, spinster, of the one part, and the Revd. Johnathan Swift, Doctor of Divinity, Dean of St. Patrick's, Dublin, of the other part, Whereby the said Esther Johnston in consideration of the sum of 158*l*. 10*s*. 10*d*. sterling to be in hand paid by the said Jonathan Swift did assign and make over unto the said Jonathan Swift All those Two Houses or Tenements with their Backsides, Stables, and Garden late in the possession of Hudson, situate in Saint Patrick Street, Dublin, with one moiety of the Close or Field near Cullenswood, in the county of Dublin, formerly in the Possession of Thomas Gavan, To Hold unto the said Jonathan Swift, his heirs and assigns, for the rest residue of the terms in the said Leases thereof therein mentioned.—In the margin: Regd. 28 Nov., 1721, at 5 o'clock after noon, book 33, page 44, No. 219,613.

DANTE ROSSETTI'S WORKS.

In case publishers pay any heed to the views of book-readers and book-lovers, I should like to record my vote against cutting and gilding the top of Rossetti's works or any other book which is not bound, but merely put up in a cloth case. Gilt tops are as suitable to one format as another; but for cloth-cased books of whatever

size they are unsuitable, because the pressure to which the leaves are subjected is not nearly so great as that to which bound books are subjected by a regular binder. Thus the leaves of a cloth-cased book are not absolutely close together; and if the top edges are shaved smooth for gilding, dust settling on the top finds its way down between the leaves, whereas that roughness which Mr. Evans describes as "a trap for the dust," at the top of a book which has been cut open with a paper-knife, is a very useful trap: it catches the dust on its way down and keeps it at the top till you remove it—an operation which is very simple.

H. BUXTON FORMAN.

THE WELSH SHIRES.

December, 1886.

SOME colour is lent to the picture of Home Rule for Wales by our continuing to group twelve shires as Wales since the reason for so grouping them has ceased.

Wales as a field for history, with her hand-maid sciences of race, language, law, and religion, is immortal; Wales as a group of twelve shires was transitory, the dates of its rise and of its fall are certain.

The year 1535 found historical Wales not yet in the realm of England, under an English king's overlordship which was weak, but also under many home rules which were strong, its people locally oppressed, its society not advancing, its commerce not increasing. In that year, by the Act 27 Henry VIII. c. 26, historical Wales was politically united as a whole to England, its Marches were sorted into shires, it was drawn within the pale of English law, and it was placed under English forms of administration. Thenceforth England and Wales grew on together, began to forget mutual jealousy, to share material prosperity, to show to every succeeding age union passing into unity.

There was an episode in this history temporarily affecting its form. The Union Act of 1535 found in historical Wales eight old shires, and created out of the Marches five new ones. It extended the judicature of England to one shire, a new one. It retained the local judicatures of the eight old shires, and created the like in the remaining four new ones. In 1543 the Act 34 and 35 Henry VIII. c. 26 replaced those twelve local judicatures by a single one for a twelve-shire province which it named "Wales." In 1830 the Act 11 George IV. and 1 William IV. swept away that single local judicature, and completely extended the judicature of England to historical Wales. Since 1830 there has been no more reason for grouping certain shires as "Wales" than for grouping other shires as East Anglia or Mercia; and there has been a reason for ceasing to group them so, namely, the clearance of a mist from the history of the old Welsh border. Yet the twelve shires are still grouped apart in books and maps, in official documents and Acts of Parliament.

Is there now any tie between Pembroke and Flint which is not between Flint and Chester? Does Glamorgan now feel the joys and griefs of Anglesey, but not those of Monmouth? Do the separate table of twelve shires in books and the line drawn along the eastern edge of their group in maps represent any useful thought or recall any stirring memory? Do they not rather hide a true nationality now belonging to history alone, and keep apart those whom all wise statesmen during three centuries and a half have striven to unite?

Already the Separatist law-maker is abroad. He has opened a breach with a twelve-shire law of liquor. He burns to widen the breach with twelve-shire laws of tithe, of rent, of land, of the Church, of Home Rule. The Unionists of 1535, who completed the number of the shires of England and Wales to fifty-two, wisely left them unclassified. The Unionists of 1886 may well leave them so.

HENRY SALUSBURY MILMAN.

THE ARTICLE "SHORTHAND" IN THE 'ENCYCLOPEDIA BRITANNICA.'

64, Imperial Buildings, Ludgate Circus, Dec. 20, 1886.

THE letter from Mr. Sinker published last week does not, in my opinion, clear up the points on which he defends the writer of the article in the 'Encyclopædia.' It rather, I think, aggravates the case as I put it, to be told that the writer knew more than is apparent in the article itself.

In explanation of the paragraph quoted from my letter by Mr. Sinker, I have to say that I referred to the 400 or 500 original works on shorthand, and not to the few mentioned in the article.

I regret that Mr. Keith-Falconer is not in England, so that those interested in the article might have had the advantage of his own explanation. I hope to give him the opportunity of being present if ever the article is criticized before the Shorthand Society, as I expect it will be.

EDWARD POCKNELL,

Past-President of the Shorthand Society.

THE WOES OF AUTHORS.

Oxford and Cambridge Club, December, 1886.

WHEN authors and publishers fall out they must either go to law or write to the *Athenæum*. May I, who am by no means inclined to the former alternative, relieve my soul by adding one more to the long list of authors' grievances chronicled in your hospitable columns?

About a year ago I undertook, at the instance of my friend Mr. Wheatley, to write a little volume on 'Book Illustration' for the "Book-Lovers' Library," a series he is editing. The book was written last winter; the final proofs were corrected in June. Probably only a few experts will detect the fact that the delay till now in issuing the book has turned what I hoped had been the latest possible information into ancient history, so I suppose I must not grumble at that. What I do object to is the fact that Mr. Stock, the publisher of the series—and I am sorry to say the proprietor of my little book—has occupied the interval between printing and publication in collecting from the commercial firms mentioned in the work (and in a technical book such mention is inevitable) a mass of supplementary information relating to their productions, which he proposes to issue as an appendix or supplement to the body of the book. This appendix will doubtless be valuable, as it will give the unbiassed opinion of each dealer upon his own goods, and these may serve to correct the mistaken views of the author as set forth in the text. All the same, I should have preferred to have said my own say instead of having my remarks sandwiched in between a mass of trade advertisements; but it appears that as I have sold the copyright I have no rights in the matter. Anyhow I am not going to invoke the majesty of the law to decide whether I have or not. I have protested, but in vain—author and editor alike are powerless. The publisher who has bought the copyright of a book seems to have the power of dealing with it as he pleases. As a final resource I have asked Mr. Stock kindly to take my name off the title-page, and this he has obligingly consented to do.

I feel sorry to have to disavow my little book, but I really cannot acknowledge it in its present company. May I, therefore, ask those readers of the *Athenæum* who are interested in the subject (kindly allow me, for the sake of argument, to assume the existence of such people), and who read the announcement some time ago that such a book would be published, to note that I am not to be held answerable for anything it may contain, either in the advertisement pages or, now that it has passed from under my control, in the text?

H. TRUEMAN WOOD.

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SALES.

THE following were some of the prices realized at the sale of the library of Sir William Hardy, F.R.S., late Deputy Keeper of the Public Records, on the 15th inst. at Messrs. Sotheby's: Eyton's Antiquities of Shropshire, 12 vols., 18l. 10s. Calendars of State Papers, 121 vols., 21l. Fraser's Frasers of Philorth, 14l. 10s. Chetham Society's Publications, 76 vols., 10l. 15s. Whitaker's History of Richmondshire, 16l. Chronicles and Memorials, Rolls Series, 182 vols., 22l. 10s. Altogether there were 162 lots offered for sale, which produced about 200l.

On Tuesday, the 14th inst., and Wednesday, the 15th, Messrs. Puttick & Simpson sold a portion of the library of Lord Leigh. Among the books knocked down were the following: Dibdin's Bibliotheca Spenceriana, Aedes Althorpianæ, and Cassano Catalogue, 22l. 10s. Oliver Twist, first edition, 8l. Gould's Birds of Europe, 68l. Hore Intemperate Virginis Marie, Paris, Hardouin, 1505, 16l. 15s.; Hore Dive Virginis Marie, Hardouin, 1510, 20l. O'Connor (C.), Rerum Hibernicarum Scriptores Veteres, 25l. Officium Beate Marie Virginis, MS. on vellum, fifteenth century, 24l. Palsgrave, Lesclarissement de la Langue Francoyse, 16l. 10s. Purchas His Pilgrimes, imperfect, 25l. 10s. R. Stephens's Testamentum Græcum, the "O mirificam" edition, 40l. Brereton's Tract, of which we noted the price (265l.) last week, was one of the items of this sale.

The same auctioneers sold on the 16th a portion of an Essex library. The most notable volume was Caxton's Game and Playes of Chess, which fetched 645l. Heywood's The Spider and the Fly brought 20l. (a copy which once belonged to Father Petre); the fourth folio Shakspeare, 31l. 10s.; and Thibault's Academie de l'Espée, 18l. 15s.

MR. R. H. PATTERSON.

WE regret to hear of the death of Mr. R. H. Patterson, the clever author of 'The Economy of Capital.' He was born in 1821, and was educated at the High School of Edinburgh. When quite young he entered the printing office of his cousin, John Ballantyne, as corrector of the press, and began before long to contribute to *Chambers's Journal* and other periodicals. He left the printing business to become editor of the *Edinburgh Advertiser*, a Tory journal now extinct, and wrote a good many articles for *Blackwood's Magazine*, contributing also to the *Quarterly* and the *Edinburgh*. Eventually he removed to London, and was connected with the Conservative press, being editor of the *Press*, *Globe*, and other journals. During this period of his life he published a number of political and economical works: 'The New Revolution; or, the Napoleonic Policy in Europe' (1860), 'Essays on History and Art' (1862), 'The Economy of Capital; or, Gold and Trade' (1865), 'The Science of Finance' (1868), 'The State of the Poor and Country' (1870). He also published a treatise on the currency, entitled 'The New Golden Age,' a volume on 'The Gas and Water Supply of London,' and a work styled 'Light Theories: Suggestions for a New System of Cosmical Science.' He for some years held an appointment in the office of the Gas Referees.

Literary Gossip.

MR. WILLIAM MORRIS has just finished the twelfth book of his translation of the 'Odyssey,' which is in the metre of his 'Story of Sigurd the Volsung.' The twelve books have gone to press, and will be published apart from the rest of the work as soon as possible.

MR. HERBERT SPENCER, whose health has been improving recently we are happy to say, will publish in January his articles

from the *Nineteenth Century*, 'The Factors of Organic Evolution.'

THE new number of the *Contemporary Review* will contain, among other papers, 'Party Government,' by the Earl of Selborne; 'India,' a reply to Mr. Samuel Smith, M.P., by Sir M. E. Grant-Duff; 'The Irish Situation,' by Mr. T. M. Healy; 'Dog Laws,' by Sir Charles Warren; 'Paul Bert's Science in Politics,' by Madame Adam; and a reply to Prof. Dicey's views on Home Rule by Canon Malcolm MacColl.

ONE of the chief features of the number with which *Blackwood* commences the new year will be 'The Land of Darkness,' a long story, in which Mrs. Oliphant delineates a novel idea of the "Inferno," differing, it is said, entirely from all other conceptions of the same subject which have been formed by writers, whether in jest or earnest, from Dante downwards. The punishments, the sufferings, the situation, are new; mechanical modes of torture are for the most part supplanted by acute mental anguish; individualities are preserved, and the vices which had characterized humanity are found playing more fiercely and freely in the doomed spiritual nature. The story forms one of Mrs. Oliphant's series of essays in the fiction of the higher supernatural, of which 'The Open Door' and 'Old Lady Mary' in *Blackwood* will be remembered.

THE January number of *Blackwood* will also contain an article on 'Mr. Hayward and his Letters,' by a writer who had enjoyed many years of close intimacy with Mr. Hayward, and who saw more of him during his last years than any other of his friends, Mr. Kinglake alone excepted.

EARLY in January Messrs. Blackwood will publish a work, by Mr. L. J. Jennings, M.P., editor of 'The Croker Papers,' entitled 'Mr. Gladstone: a Study.' Mr. Jennings's object has been to present the leading facts connected with Mr. Gladstone's public career in as brief a form as possible, and therefore the work has been compressed within a moderate compass, so that it may be published cheaply. The work, for which Mr. Jennings has long been collecting materials, is divided into seven chapters or parts, namely, "Mr. Gladstone's Political Principles," "Development of Radicalism," "Foreign Policy," "Irish Policy" (two parts), "Financial Policy," and "Characteristics."

MR. JOSEPH HATTON's new novel, 'The Old House at Sandwich,' will be published next month by Messrs. Sampson Low & Co. The sketches of English politicians which have for some time past been appearing in the *Kreuz Zeitung*, of Berlin, are from his pen.

THE Rev. Prebendary C. A. Row has just completed a large work on 'Future Retribution.' The book is now in the printer's hands, and will be published next spring by Messrs. Isbister.

PROF. MAHAFFY's 'Rambles and Studies in Greece,' which are now out of print, will appear very shortly in a third edition, with many additions of new matter and corrections to bring the book up to the present date.

THE translation of Boccaccio's 'Decameron' which Mr. John Payne has exe-

cuted for the Villon Society is likely to be another rarity bearing the imprint of that society. Already, before the subscribers have received their copies, the whole issue is disposed of.

MESSRS. GEORGE ROUTLEDGE & SONS will open a branch of the Broadway house in a central position in Glasgow on January 1st.

WALT WHITMAN's admirers will be glad to know that the November number of the *North American Review* contains a vigorous article on Burns, entitled 'Robert Burns as Poet and Person,' written by Mr. Whitman, and giving in the space of eight pages an estimate, at once critical and philosophical, of the Scotch poet's place in literature.

THE Controller of the Clarendon Press, Mr. H. Hart, tells us that the 'Facsimiles of Hebrew MSS. in the Bodleian Library,' which we praised last week, and which he says are the first work of the kind executed at this Press, are not lithographs, but have been done by the collotype process, the titles being afterwards added by lithography.

IN searching among unpublished materials of a literary sort connected with the life of the early American novelist Charles Brockden Brown that he is preparing, Mr. E. I. Stevenson has discovered the MS. journals of a Dr. Elihu H. Smith (New York, circa 1796), which are said to be valuable and interesting for the literary history of the period. Mr. Stevenson hopes to ultimately edit them.

MESSRS. WHITTAKER & Co. have in the press a series of articles on 'South African Hunting, and Notes on a Ride to the Victoria Falls of the Zambesi,' reprinted, with considerable additions and corrections, from the *Field*, by Alfred J. Bethell. The work will contain a sketch-map of the district.

MESSRS. HURST & BLACKETT will publish in January a new work by Mr. John Ashton, entitled 'Eighteenth Century Waifs'; also 'Shikar Sketches, with Notes on Indian Field Sports,' by J. Moray Brown, with eight illustrations by J. C. Dollman, R.I. The same publishers will also issue the novel by Mr. Hamilton Aidé entitled 'Passages in the Life of a Lady in 1814, 1815, 1816,' which we mentioned some weeks ago; and 'Victims,' by Theo Gift, author of 'Lil Lorimer.'

MESSRS. TRÜBNER & Co. have in the press 'The Revolution in Tanner's Lane,' by Mark Rutherford, the author of 'Mark Rutherford's Autobiography' and of 'Mark Rutherford's Deliverance.'

THE second volume of Prof. Pfeiderer's 'Philosophy of Religion,' now in the press, will include not only many corrections and additions by the author, but also some new matter on the English philosophers of the present day.

DR. STEINACHNER has completed his bibliographical supplement to Benjacob's 'Treasure of Hebrew Books' (in Hebrew, Wilna, 1880), which is arranged alphabetically according to titles. Dr. Steinachner will also supply an alphabetical list of authors. These two volumes may be considered as the omega of Hebrew bibliography.

AMONGST the MSS. brought by Dr. Harkavy from the East is a large fragment

of an Aramaic text of Karaitic casuistic rules (Halakhah), which may possibly turn out to be a fragment of the 'Fadlakah' of Anan (the founder of the Karaitic sect). Only a small portion of it is at present known. This was published in the *Athenæum* by the late Mr. Shapira, and a larger extract by Dr. Neubauer in his 'Aus der Petersburger Bibliothek' (Leipzig, 1866, p. 105).

A NEW work, entitled 'Through the Golden Gates: a Fragment of Thought,' will be published early in January in England and the United States—by Messrs. Ward & Downey in England, and by Messrs. Roberts Brothers, of Boston, in the States.

THE 'Liberal Year-Book,' which is to appear in January, will be edited by Mr. E. A. Judge, and among the contributors are Mr. J. W. Probyn, Mr. Arthur Arnold, and others.

WE regret to hear of the early death of Mr. Barr Tomkins, an historical student who occasionally contributed to our columns. In 1883 Mr. Tomkins was engaged by the Royal Commissioners on Historical MSS. to report on the Weston MSS. preserved at Somerby. At the time of his decease he had just completed a long report on the MSS. of the Marquis Townshend kept at Raynham Hall. He was educated at Trinity Hall, Cambridge, having graduated in 1867, and was only forty-two.

WHILE our War Office is taking measures for encouraging the study of Russian by granting premiums from the parliamentary vote, the Sultan is following a like policy. H.I.M. has ordered Russian to be taught in the Military School, and has appointed as teacher Ahmed Nermi Effendi, a native of Kasan, in Russia, where, it may be observed, is a great Oriental school, in which Turkish is carefully taught.

FROM the beginning of the new year *Walford's Antiquarian* will appear in an enlarged form. Among the contents of the January number will be given an article on 'The Literature of Almanacs'; an illustrated paper on the Domesday Book; and, under the heading of 'Frostiana,' a quantity of information touching severe winters and hard frosts from a remote period, both at home and abroad. The number will also contain a paper by the editor on 'Tom Coryate and his Crudities.'

THE report on the publications registered in the Bombay presidency in 1885 states that there has been an increase in the number of books printed in nearly every spoken and classical language in the presidency during the year. One remarkable fact is the fewness of the books written in the vernacular languages by members of the university. Out of nine hundred books published in Marathi and Gujarathi only about twenty were written by graduates. Most of the contributions to vernacular literature during the year appear to have been made by writers without pretensions to high education.

IN our number for January 1st we shall print our customary series of articles on the literature of Continental Europe. Among them will be Belgium, by M. E. de Laveleye and M. P. Fredericq; Bohemia, by Dr. Backovský; Denmark, by M. V. Petersen; France, by M. G. Sarrazin; Germany,

by Hofrath Zimmermann; Greece, by M. Lambros; Holland, by E. van Campen; Hungary, by Prof. Vámbéry; Italy, by Signor Bonghi; Norway, by M. Jaeger; Russia, by Prof. Storojenko; Spain, by Señor Riaño; and Sweden, by M. Ahnfelt. This will be the last occasion on which we shall publish these articles at the beginning of the year, when the demands on our space are excessive. In future we propose to issue them in July, giving in next July an account of the literature of the first six months of 1887.

SCIENCE

MEDICAL BOOKS.

The Brain and the Nerves: their Ailments and their Exhaustion. By Thomas Stretch Dowse, M.D. (Baillière, Tindall & Cox.)—Dr. Dowse commences by pointing out the important part that nervous ailments play in marring the happiness and preventing the success in life of those who suffer from them, the danger of ignoring them, and the necessity for their early recognition and treatment. He believes that nervous exhaustion is the forerunner and prime agent in the production of all diseases, functional and organic. In discussing the remedies for "neurasthenics" he lays great stress upon the efficacy of plenty of food and some stimulants, and he quotes cases which prove his point. Though it is difficult to agree with all his opinions, Dr. Dowse has produced a book full of interest, and very suggestive as to the treatment of neurasthenia. He may be with justice accused of special pleading; but in consequence of the wear and tear produced by our mode of life this class of diseases has largely increased of late, and any treatise must be heartily welcomed which leads to a more careful examination and to more prompt treatment of them.

Massage as a Mode of Treatment. By William Murrell, M.D. (Lewis.)—It is a satisfaction to meet with a book which treats of this very popular remedy. There has hitherto been a tendency to allow new remedies to drift into the hands of ignorant quacks and charlatans. We are glad to find the medical profession rousing themselves and recognizing that it is their duty to investigate fresh ideas and test their utility. Massage, however, as Dr. Murrell clearly shows, is an old method recently revived. Dr. Murrell rightly dwells upon the importance of a thorough training to enable the masseur or the masseuse to do his or her work properly; and it is to be hoped that the public may realize the fact that he lays so much stress on, that massage carried on by ignorant and imperfectly trained women is useless, and often worse than useless. The requirements to enable a masseur to be successful are many; two years' training, patience, gentleness, sympathy, are some of them. This little work induces us to hope that a new, valuable, and easy treatment has been found for many tedious and incurable complaints. Further experience is yet required to know exactly when we may expect success, and this treatment is suffering, as all new or recently revived methods suffer, from being unduly vaunted and imperfectly carried out. Dr. Murrell's excellent work proves the necessity for further careful and accurate observation of the various modes of procedure comprised under the term "massage." We think that the public as well as the medical profession will do well to peruse it.

Unconscious Memory in Disease. By Charles Creighton, M.D. (Lewis.)—The text upon which this book is founded is one full of interest not only to the philosophical, but also to the practical physician. The fact that "habit" plays an important part in the course that diseases take has long been known, and the importance of breaking the morbid habit is not too much or too strongly insisted upon by Dr.

Creighton in the excellent work before us. He insists that in many chronic diseases it is necessary to get rid not only of the cause, but also of the memory of it, ill health having a tendency to outlive its cause or to come back by the power of memory. To get rid of this memory or habit he urges the importance of adopting an alternative treatment. The important bearing of this theory on visceral neuroses is abundantly proved, and the medical profession will do well to lay Dr. Creighton's views to heart and act upon them in practice. It is difficult to agree quite so heartily with the author's views on cancer, tubercle, and other specific diseases. He has not shown clearly how they are under the influence of unconscious memory, and we venture to think that much has yet to be learnt about these diseases before he will be able to prove his proposition. Still the views of Dr. Creighton may be recommended to the careful consideration of the scientific and medical world as a valuable contribution to our knowledge, and as being likely to contribute largely to the rapid cure of disease.

On Disorders of Digestion: their Consequences and Treatment. By T. Lauder Brunton, M.D. (Macmillan & Co.)—This volume commences with three lectures delivered before the Medical Society of London in 1885. They are full of information, scientific and practical, relative to the important function of digestion. Dr. Brunton shows in a clear way how different people differ in their power of digestion; how the surroundings affect those powers, such as age, solitude, exercise, exhaustion, the use and the abuse of stimulants. He lays down intelligible and common-sense laws, which should enable all to keep their stomachs in a healthy condition if they will only follow them. He believes in a good dinner as a thing to be enjoyed; he thinks it conduces to good health, to the abolition of the abuse of stimulants, and to the promotion of sound work. The rest of the volume contains miscellaneous essays on diseases dependent upon the digestion, and on the action of various drugs upon the liver and stomach. Dr. Brunton's work is always well and thoroughly done. This volume is no exception to the rule, and it may be read with great advantage by the medical profession, and, so far as the Lettsomian Lectures are concerned, by the intelligent public. The public already are full of ideas on the subject of digestion. It would be better for all if those ideas were founded on some sound information such as Dr. Brunton imparts.

ANTHROPOLOGICAL NOTES.

PROF. HUMPHRY, with the assistance of Mr. A. Francis, has analyzed and commented upon fifty-two returns of alleged centenarians—sixteen men and thirty-six women—furnished in answer to the request of the Collective Investigation Committee of the British Medical Association for tabular information on the subject of extreme longevity. Unfortunately the statement of age is not confirmed by baptismal certificates or other records in more than eleven cases; and even in these there appears to have been no such strict investigation as the problem requires into the identity of the subject of the inquiry with that of the certificate. The result of these returns, therefore, does nothing to shake the important canon laid down by the late Sir G. Cornewall Lewis and Mr. W. J. Thoms—not, as so often absurdly stated, and as even Prof. Humphry appears to think it, that the human body is incapable of retaining vitality for so long a period as 100 years, but that the assertion that a person has lived to that age is one requiring strict proof; that centenarianism is not to be assumed until the contrary is proved, but to be proved in the affirmative by such evidence as would satisfy a court of justice on any question of fact. Prof. Humphry's report does afford, however, interesting particulars as to the condition of man in extreme old age.

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The asserted age in no case exceeds 108. To the question, Is the figure erect or bent? the answers were equally divided. The average height was, for the males, 5 ft. 8½ in.; for the females, 5 ft. 3 in. The average weight was, for the males, 9 st. 12 lb.; for the females, 9 st. 3 lb. In the majority of cases, sight, digestion, and appetite were good; the old people were moderate eaters, took little or no alcohol, had average intellects and good memories. One old lady remembers and will quote a great deal of the Bible; another can repeat about 100 Psalms correctly. Among their life-habits "activity, out-of-door exercise, and early rising, with moderation in diet and alcohol, stand out in strong relief." The report is published as a supplement to the *British Medical Journal*.

Dr. Topinard has not sought re-election to the office of general secretary of the Society of Anthropology of Paris, which he had held for six years in immediate succession to Broca, whose traditions he resolutely upheld. Other changes in the personnel of the Society have taken place, which, it is believed, indicate a tendency to devote more attention to questions of psychology, sociology, and politics than has hitherto been usual with it. The Society has so good a record of work in the domain of pure anthropology under its founder and his successor that it would be much to be regretted if it should sacrifice to subjects of more passing attractiveness its solid reputation for usefulness.

THE PETROLEUM WELLS OF THE RED SEA COAST OF EGYPT.

Cairo, Dec. 10, 1886.

I HAVE hitherto been disposed to entertain grave doubts with respect to the new attempts made by the Egyptian Government to open the petroleum wells at Gamsah and Gebel el Zeit, on account of the harmful deceptions that have heretofore been practised so often in Egypt. The results, however, which Mr. L. H. Mitchell, a mining engineer in the Egyptian service, arrived at last summer in his geological reconnaissance, are so convincing as to the presence of rich petroleum beds in the depth of the sedimentary stratification of the entire region around Gebel el Zeit, that one can only wish success to the Government, which has taken up the matter energetically.

Not only has every government the right, but it is also its duty, to make researches *à fond perdu* where the natural richness of the ground proclaims itself on the surface by clear and certain proofs; and a heavy responsibility would rest upon one which in a case where the problem is so plain as at Gebel el Zeit did not do its utmost to secure for the country a future source of wealth.

The whole matter turns upon these questions: How deep is it necessary to bore, and in what localities? These questions have now been brought within well-defined limits, thanks to the special knowledge obtained through Mr. Mitchell's investigations of the region. The carrying out of the practical work necessary has been entrusted to the hands of experts, who are now busily engaged on the spot. We may await in confidence the results of their labours.

Mr. Mitchell, engaged by the Government, employed about four months of the last summer in making his explorations, and brought back with him a large collection of rock specimens, fossils, and other convincing evidences, which have thrown a flood of light on the whole question. The region surveyed embraces inland from the Red Sea an extent of country about eighty miles in length, and twenty-five to thirty in breadth. The northern limits of the region traversed are Gebel Gharib and Ras Gharib (28° 21' lat. N.), and the southern, Gebel Qattar and Ras Abou Mingarh (27° 11'). The principal islands of the coast, Shadwan (granitic and upper miocene), Jubal (raised beaches), and Jifâtin, were also visited and explored with the view of obtaining

fossils. Mr. Mitchell has prepared maps on a large scale, in plan and section, illustrating the geology of the region, based on the most careful measurements of distances and heights, which, together with his official report, will in due course be published at Cairo, and furnish an important addition to our knowledge—now so scanty—of that part of the Egyptian coast territory. I have myself visited this region several times in my trips across the eastern desert, especially in the years 1877, 1878, and 1885, when I passed through the whole length of the coast ranges; but unfortunately my observations have not been published yet for the most part. My palæontological collections have been all deposited in the Mineralogical Museum of Berlin.

Between the coast line and the high crystalline mountain chain which, twenty-five miles from the sea, stretches along parallel with it, elevations and disturbances of stratification have taken place at different geological epochs (the last at the beginning of the miocene), through the after intrusion of veins and fields of crystalline rocks (granite, granitic porphyry, porphyrite, felsite, diabase, are the most common), as also through volcanic action, as is the case at Gamsah—Mr. Mitchell having discovered the important fact of the existence of black lava at that point, and obtained near the abandoned sulphur mines specimens of the same.

On account of the intrusion or eruption of these masses of crystalline rocks and volcanic lava, the original order, condition, and superposition of the beds or layers of sedimentary rocks have been disturbed in such a way that the lowest strata have been brought into indirect relation with the highest. There can now be no doubt but that the petroleum of Gebel el Zeit has its origin in the lowest sandstone strata, which has already been shown to belong to the Devonian formation, as is precisely the case in North America on the eastern slope of the Alleghanies. Fissures in the sedimentary rocks, caused by the intrusion of the crystalline veins (of granitic porphyries, felsites, &c.) or the eruption of volcanic lava, as at Gamsah, have given rise to infiltration, so that the petroleum appears on the surface. In one case the infiltration follows directly the crystalline vein; the spot discovered by Mr. Mitchell lies near Ras Dhib, on the coast north of Gebel el Zeit. There a black granitic vein steeped in petroleum extends over a wide area in the midst of upper miocene limestone. It is in the neighbourhood of these promising places that boring operations have been instituted.

In view of Mr. Mitchell's observations the theory advanced by Prof. Oscar Fraas of Stuttgart in 1864 falls to the ground. This theory was that the petroleum at Gamsah belongs to the recent sea, is due to the decomposition of animal bodies, is quite superficial, and consequently would be very soon exhausted.

The sandstone of the eastern slope of the Egyptian coast mountains seems to rest everywhere directly upon the plutonic crystalline rocks. Metamorphic schistose rocks have not been discovered by myself in these latitudes; they abound, however, further southwards in the crystalline coast ranges as far as about 26° 30' latitude north. The whole of the sandstone in the Egyptian coast region shows nowhere more than 300 ft. in thickness. The lowest division of the same belongs, as I discovered in 1885 in the Wady Arabah (containing *Spirigera concentrica*, *Streptorhynchus umbraculum*, *Bellerophon*, *Rhynchonella*, encrinites, &c.), to the upper or to the middle Devonian formation, and has been named by Prof. Hull, in his 'Survey of Western Palestine,' "Desert sandstone," while the upper part, generally known under the name of Nubian sandstone, probably belongs to one of the lower divisions of the upper cretaceous formation.

In Wady Dakhli, a few miles to the south of St. Paul's Convent, this sandstone formation contains, very near its undisturbed contact with

granitic porphyry, bituminous marlsate, which induced Figari Bey, in 1845-48, to dig for coal, to which end he ran horizontal galleries into the mountain. This bitumen comes from petroleum, which in this place is only indicated, but must fill reservoirs of large area in other places in the same strata, as is evidenced by its appearance at the surface on the coast.

Above the sandstone, on the eastern slope of the great nummulitic plateau lying behind the crystalline coast range, are found undisturbed layers of marl alternating with calcareous fossiliferous breccia, for the most part soft, belonging to the upper cretaceous formation (Senon and Turon), about 250 ft. in thickness. Near the sea, however, they do not appear to have been at all developed—at least, to no great extent.

Above this are found the uppermost strata of the white chalk or cretaceous rocks (Senon) with *Ostrea vesicularis*. On the eastern slopes of the nummulitic plateau these strata are gradually passing over in eoene limestone, but near the Red Sea they are limited and replaced by white chalk layers, 200 ft. thick, full of large flint concretions. On these is bedded upper miocene limestone with *Ostrea crassissima*, &c., which in hills near the coast is found developed to a thickness of 300 ft.

The eoene formation is entirely wanting in the coast region. On the contrary, however, the great plateau inland has a development of these strata from 1,200 to 1,500 feet.

It appears from what has been said that in order to arrive at the petroleum bed it will be necessary to bore through in the worst case only about 1,050 feet of strata, generally of soft texture. It is likely, however, that even in unfavourable spots it will not be necessary to bore more than 800 feet.

Should it, however, be practicable to bore in those places where the above-mentioned cretaceous limestones (those containing flint concretions) have been tilted, and where one can take advantage of the lowest geological horizon, in those places the boring would probably have to be carried down only to a depth of 500 feet, perhaps no more than 400.

Judging from the results of the researches made by Mr. Mitchell, the required points are concluded to be inland about twenty miles south-west from Gebel el Zeit, in Wady Dhib, where the white flint chalk is infiltrated with bitumen. Another point, offering, I believe, more advantages in regard to the depth of geological level, lies about ten miles westward from Gebel el Zeit. The locality is a well with brackish water, known under the name of Enned el Melaha.

Boring at the present moment is being carried on at two points, namely, at Ras Gamsah and at the south end of Gebel el Zeit, near the so-called petroleum harbour. The depths reached there are 50 to 150 feet only. At Ras Gamsah the strata belong to the upper miocene formation, in some places, perhaps, with recent coral limestone deposited thereon. This latter, elsewhere of a very great extension on the shores of the Red Sea, in accordance with Prof. Hull is called "the formation of the raised beaches," and belongs, probably, to our diluvial period.

The boring at Gebel el Zeit seems somewhat exposed to danger by being too near to the crystalline rocks (a kind of granite, coarse grained with dark red-brown orthoclase, which sometimes changes into epidote, and very poor in quartz and mica) of the mountain, so that they may be hit before the Devonian sandstone is arrived at.

G. SCHWEINFURTH.

GEOGRAPHICAL PUBLICATIONS.

We are indebted to Mr. W. Griggs, of Peckham, for a fine photo-chromolithographic facsimile of Diego Ribero's map of the world, the original of which, now in the library of the Propaganda at Rome, found a place in the recent Colonial and Indian Exhibition, having been

lent for the purpose by His Holiness Pope Leo XIII. The facsimile is on a somewhat reduced scale, but the nomenclature is perfectly legible. The editorial notes which accompany the map are rather vague. The writer omits to state that a copy of Ribero's map exists in the Weimar Library, and that it has been published in Santarem's atlas. Nor does he hint that Ribero's map is in a large measure based upon an anonymous Spanish map of 1527 (also in the Weimar Library), which Kohl ascribes to Hernando Colon.

'The Intermediate Class-Book of Modern Geography,' abridged from Prof. Hughes's 'Class-Book of Modern Geography' by J. Francon Williams (Philip & Son), appears to have been prepared with care. It is a school-book of an older type, and its nomenclature is consequently abundant.

'The Oriel Geographical Readers' for Standards III. and IV., edited by A. Traill and published by Messrs. Marcus Ward & Co., are well illustrated, but present otherwise no special feature of interest. There is a map of the world on Mercator's projection, which professes to show the "relative sizes of British Isles and British possessions."

'The Sixth Geographical Reader,' Standard VII. (Blackwood & Sons), deals very instructively with the ocean, currents, tides, and the planetary system. It is brightly written, and affords excellent reading.

'Stanford's Intermediate School Physical and Political Atlas' (Stanford) consists of a map of the world, physical maps of the continents and the British Islands, political maps of the same, and of about twenty-eight diagrams of various countries upon which the hills are indicated by black lines, varying in boldness according to the heights represented. This last method very much simplifies the appearance of a map, but it is only efficient for the representation of mountain ranges. The atlas is got up with the care and neatness to which we are accustomed at Mr. Stanford's hands.

The little volume which Messrs. Walker & Co. publish under the title of 'The British Colonial Pocket Atlas' is most pretty and convenient. But the maps do not exactly bear inspection. The map of 'Continental Connections' shows no connexions with Dunkirk, Calais, Boulogne, Havre, or St. Malo. The Channel Islands, too, seem innocent of any connexion with France. 'The Route to India' is also a very poor map. 'The Queen's Jubilee Atlas of the British Empire,' published by Messrs. Philip & Son, is a clear and handy atlas intended for popular use.

SOCIETIES.

ROYAL.—Dec. 16.—The President in the chair.—The following papers were read: 'Note on Specific Inductive Capacity,' by Dr. J. Hopkinson, with a communication from Prof. Quincke; 'On a Varying Cylindrical Lens,' by Dr. T. Anderson; 'On the Action of the Excised Mammalian Heart,' by Dr. Waller and Mr. E. W. Reid; 'Experiments on the Reflection of Polarized Light from the Surface of Iceland Spar,' by Mr. C. Spurge; 'Contributions to the Chemistry of Chlorophyll,' No. II., by Mr. E. Schunck; 'On the Changes in the Proteids in the Seed which accompany Germination,' by Mr. J. R. Green; and 'Preliminary Account of the Observations of the Eclipse of the Sun by Capt. Darwin, R.E., at Grenada, in August, 1886,' by Capt. Darwin. —The Society adjourned over the Christmas recess.

GEOLOGICAL.—Dec. 15.—Prof. J. W. Judd, President, in the chair.—Messrs. J. Usher and J. T. Wood were elected Fellows.—The following communications were read: 'Notes on *Nemulites elegans*, Sow., and other English Nummulites,' by Prof. T. R. Jones; 'On the Dentition and Affinities of the Selachian Genus *Ptychodus*, Agassiz,' by Mr. A. S. Woodward; and 'On a Molar of a Pliocene Type of *Equus* from Nubia,' by Mr. R. Lydekker.

ASIATIC.—Dec. 20.—Col. Yule, President, in the chair.—Lieut. Simpson and Mr. Midonall were elected Non-Resident Members.—After a few preliminary remarks from the President, in which he again had to announce a heavy loss to the Society,

owing to the death of one of its councillors, Mr. A. Grote, Prof. R. K. Douglas, in the absence of the author, read a paper by the Rev. S. Beal, entitled 'Some Remarks on the Narrative of Fa-Hien.' This was mainly an endeavour to reconcile certain doubtful passages in the travels of the Chinese pilgrim as recorded in the available texts, whether in respect of verbal interpretations or the identity of places. Among other interesting facts brought out by the retrospect, one is that Buddhism was thoroughly established in Khotan at the time of Fa-Hien's visit, for he relates that he found 10,000 priests and fourteen large convents there, besides smaller ones, and, moreover, that most of the priests, including those of the principal monastery of Gomati, were given to the study of the Great Vehicle. It proves that at this early date the system known as the Mahāyāna had become so well established as to reach a comparatively remote region. Mr. Beal surmises that it may have penetrated into Khotan rather from Turkistan than India proper, and his consequent deduction is that the principles of the Great Vehicle, mixed up as they were with philosophical speculations and doctrines strange to primitive Buddhism, were greatly derived from foreign sources. Thence the pilgrim travelled westward to Tseu-ho and Kie-cha, the latter presumed to be Kash, or "the river region," the Cassia Regio of Ptolemy, from which point he went on, in a still westerly direction, towards India, crossing the Tsung-Ling, explained to be the Snowy Mountains. The last of the many suggestions thrown out for the solution of difficulties in the text referred to Java, and Palembang (the Chinese Sriboja) in Sumatra. It was not clear whether Fa-Hien stopped at either place, but the inference was in favour of the latter. "Yava" was a term supposed to apply to all the fertile lands of Sumatra and Java (corresponding to "Bhoja"), and Sriboja to be the central point of these districts, corresponding to the neighbourhood of Palembang, "where we ought to seek for and find many Buddhist remains."—Prof. Douglas and the President adverted to one or two points which offered for discussion.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.—Dec. 16.—Mr. J. Evans, President, in the chair.—Mr. J. P. Earwaker, through the Treasurer, exhibited two original impressions of the seal of Edmund Cornwall, of Ever, Bucks, attached to a charter of feoffment, and a letter of attorney to deliver seisin of the manor of Ever, dated 10 Hen. VI.; also letters of administration by the Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, 1585, under a seal provided in pursuance of an Act of Parliament, 2 Edw. VI.—Mr. W. Maskell exhibited and presented a painted panel, formerly the predella of an altarpiece, with a bust of our Lord between two kneeling figures, and an inscription recording its being the gift of John Parmentier, Burgess of Montdidier, and his wife, in 1519.—Mr. G. Maw exhibited a curious medal of silver, which unscrews to form a case for a series of seventeen small circular pictures, representing scenes in the expulsion of Protestants from Bavaria at the beginning of the eighteenth century, with Scripture texts in German.—Mr. W. Brown exhibited a photograph of one of the singular North-country monuments called hog-backed stones, found near Arncliffe Hall, Northallerton.—Mr. C. R. B. King exhibited a fragment of carved oak, with an inscription with inlaid letters of late fifteenth century date, from the church of Moreton Morrell, Warwickshire.—Mr. R. S. Ferguson exhibited a large silver brooch or fibula, belonging to the "Iron Age," originally discovered in 1848 at Casterton, in Westmoreland, but which had long been lost, and recently came to light again in an old cupboard at Casterton Hall.—Prof. Westwood communicated an account of an Anglo-Saxon sepulchral stone at Stratfield Mortimer, and of a Norman stone at Sheffield.—Mr. H. S. Cowper described a number of prehistoric remains found by him in Lancashire and Westmoreland. The most remarkable of these were two large felt hoods, originally found with four others, at a depth of four feet, in a peat moss at the foot of Esthwaite Lake in 1867.

NUMISMATIC.—Dec. 16.—Dr. J. Evans, President, in the chair.—Mr. J. W. Dorman and Mr. J. S. Henderson were elected Members, and Mr. F. J. Thairwall was proposed.—The President drew attention to the fact that the Numismatic Society completes this month the fiftieth year of its existence, it having been founded on the 22nd of December, 1836, at a meeting held in the rooms of the Royal Astronomical Society, Dr. J. Lee being the first President.—Mr. H. Montagu was elected Vice-President by the Council in the room of the late Ven. Archdeacon Pownall.—Mr. Durlacher moved, and Mr. Webster seconded, a proposal that the Society should strike a medal in commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of its foundation. The question was referred to the Council.—Mr. B. V. Head exhibited, on behalf of the late Archdeacon Pownall, a bronze medal—by Matteo Pasti, the pupil of Pisano—of Isotta, third

wife of Pandolfo di Malatesta, Lord of Rimini and Pano, having on the reverse an angel descending from the sky, holding a wreath with the inscription, OPVS . MATHEI . DE . PASTIS . MCCCXVI, and on the obverse a portrait of Isotta and Isote . ARMINENSI . FORMA . ET . VIRTUTE . ITALIE . DECORI .—Mr. Hall exhibited a "grosso" of Henry VII. of Luxembourg, 1309-1313, struck at Milan with the type of St. Ambrose, and another of the same mint with that of SS. Gervasius and Probasius.—Mr. Copp exhibited a gold medal of Maximilian II., struck in commemoration of his coronation in 1563.—The President read a paper on some rare and unpublished specimens in gold of Faustina II.; Vespasian, restored by Trajan; Severus; Gallienus, with feminine legend GALLIENAE AVGVS-TAE; Julianus; Carausius; Allectus; Constantius; Maximianus; Galeria Valeria; and Maximinus.

STATISTICAL.—Dec. 21.—Prof. H. S. Foxwell, V.P., in the chair.—The paper read was 'On Sliding Scales and other Methods of Wage-Arrangements in the North of England,' by Mr. L. L. F. R. Price.—A discussion followed, in which Mr. J. S. Jeans, Mr. J. Burnett, Prof. H. Sidgwick, Prof. Munro, Rev. W. Cunningham, Sir R. W. Rawson, and the Chairman took part.

LINNEAN.—Dec. 16.—Mr. W. Carruthers, President, in the chair.—H. R. H. the Prince of Wales was elected an Honorary Member.—Messrs. A. Bawtree, F. Justen, T. N. Mukharji, F. W. Oliver, and R. V. Sherring were elected Fellows; and G. Nicholson an Associate.—The President announced that Sir G. MacLay had presented to the Society a portrait of the late Rev. W. Kirby, and the MSS. and correspondence of his father A. MacLay (elected F.L.S. 1794), formerly Secretary to the Society.—Mr. E. A. Heath showed a stormy petrel, *Procellaria pelagica*, picked up alive in Kensington Gardens on the 9th of December, the bird evidently having been driven landwards by the great storm of the preceding day.—Mr. W. T. Thirlston Dyer showed one of the volumes of 'Honzo Zufu' ('Illustrations and Brief Descriptions of the Plants of Japan'), by Iwasatti Tsanemasa, which consists of ninety-six volumes containing 2,000 coloured figures. Only two or three copies are known to be complete, as a great part of it only obtains in the original native handwork.—Mr. G. J. Romanes read a paper 'On the Sense of Smell in Dogs.' After preliminary observations on smell as enormously developed in carnivores and ruminants the author related his own experiments with a setter-bitch. His conclusions are that in the case of this animal she distinguished his trail from that of all others by the peculiar smell of his boots, and not by the peculiar smell of his feet. "No doubt the smell which she recognized as belonging distinctly to my trail was communicated to the boots by the exudations from my feet; but these exudations required to be combined with shoe-leather before they were recognized by her." The experiments further show that although a few square millimetres of the surface of one boot are amply sufficient to make a trail which the animal can individually recognize, the scent is not able to penetrate a single layer of brown paper. Furthermore it would appear that in following a trail this bitch is ready at any moment to be guided by inference as well as perception, and that the act of inference is instantaneous. Lastly, the experiments show that not only the feet, but likewise the whole body of a man, exhale a peculiar or individual odour, which a dog can recognize as that of his master amidst a crowd of other persons; that the individual quality of this odour can be recognized at great distances to windward, or in calm weather at great distances in any direction; and that this odour is not overcome by aniseed.

—Mr. C. T. Drury gave a communication on a new instance of aposepsy in *Polystichum angulare*, var. *pulcherrimum*. He infers that the formation of the prothallus is preceded by a very different series of phenomena from those already recorded. In the one case the prothalli are simple extensions of the cellular substance of the tips of the pinnae, commencing at points quite beyond the venation, and possess no root hairs unless brought into contact with the soil. In the other case, however, the prothallus is a direct outgrowth of the tip of a veinlet, and at once produces root hairs in abundance long before it assumes any other characteristic of a prothallus, and finally the resulting prothallus is much thicker in substance.—A paper was read on aposepsy and allied phenomena by Prof. F. O. Bower. The term "sporal arrest" is applied to all cases where such spores do not come to functional maturity. The arrest is often, but not always, followed by substitutionary or correlative vegetative growths; these take the form of buds similar to the sporophyte which produced them, and then would be termed cases of "sporophytic budding"; but in other cases the correlative growths may assume the characters

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of the oophyte or prothallus. Where this happens the phenomenon is termed "apospory." This direct transition from the sporophyte to the oophyte was induced some ten years ago in certain mosses by Pringsheim and Stahl, and it is now described in detail in two ferns, an *Athyrium* and a *Polydicticum*. The author shows how in the *Polydicticum* at least four different modes of origin of the oophyte may be distinguished, two being in connexion with the sorus, while two are at points apart from the sorus, and may even occur on fronds which bear no sori at all. The latter part of the paper is occupied by comparing these phenomena with others already known in higher and lower plants. The general conclusion is that the whole phenomenon of apospory is to be regarded rather as a sport than as a reversion bearing deep morphological conclusions with it.

METEOROLOGICAL.—Dec. 15.—Mr. W. Ellis, President, in the chair.—Mr. G. R. Farncombe, Mr. C. E. B. Hewitt, and Capt. S. Trott were elected Fellows.—The following papers were read: 'On the Proceedings of the International Congress of Hydrology and Climatology at Biarritz,' by Mr. G. J. Symons. This congress was held in October, and was divided into three sections, viz., Scientific Hydrology, Medical Hydrology, and Climatology, scientific and medical. The total number of papers read was 109. An exhibition was also held in connexion with the congress.—'Report on the Phenological Observations for 1886,' by the Rev. T. A. Preston. The weather was, on the whole, very ungenial, and everything much retarded; it was also fatal to insect life, so that the complaints on this head have been far fewer than usual. Bush fruits were very abundant; strawberries and peas were spoiled by drought in many places; stone fruits, except plums, were not abundant; plums were extraordinarily plentiful, so much so that the cost of picking and carrying often was more than they realized. Apples were very poor, from the destruction of the bloom by heavy rain. Hay was good and plentiful, and well harvested; corn and other grain were not up to an average; root crops were, as a rule, remarkably good.—'A Criticism of certain Points of Prof. Langley's Researches on Solar Heat,' by Prof. S. A. Hill.—'Account of the Hurricane of March 3rd-4th, 1886, over the Fiji Islands,' by Mr. R. L. Holmes.—'Results of Meteorological Observations made at the Military Cemetery, Scutari, Constantinople, 1866-85,' by Mr. W. H. Lyne.

PHILOLOGICAL.—Dec. 17.—Prof. Skeat in the chair.—Dr. H. Sweet read a paper 'On the Laws of Sound-Change.' He dealt with the influence of vowels on neighbouring consonants, especially in Russian, in which a vowel like the final *i* palatalizes the preceding consonant, and sometimes two or three of them. So our "men" came from the palatalization of the *n* through the influence of the final *i* in *mann-i*; our "end" in the same way from *and-i*. Traces of these palatalized consonants are seen in "singe" from *sangjan*, in "bridge," &c. "Ashes," E.Eng. *aishe*, A.-S. *ascan*, *ascan*; the *i* of *aishe* was developed by the palatalized consonants. Latin and Aryan *alios* palatalized became *ailos*, *ail*. Fr. *gloire* from *L. gloria* is also due to the same cause. The non-influence of vowels on consonants in modern English is quite an exception in the history of language. Dr. Sweet then treated of analogy and accent which produced changes other than sound-changes, as "chosen" from *-coven*, Greenwich=Grinnidge. Ledyard tells Germans to sound the unemphatic "which" as *huidsch*. That, when unemphatic, is "that." Sound-changes are due to imitation, as *thing-fing*, or are organic, due to the organs of speech. These latter are the main ones to be noted. Economy in sound and space, and seemingly of effort, prevail. In large cities trilling of the *r* stops, &c. But Dr. Sweet denied the principle of easing. The really important distinction was between stable and unstable articulation: *p* is stable; Hungarian *ta* is one of the most unstable sounds in language; it may become *k*, it may be *sha* or *s*. L. (*k*) *calum* becomes Fr. *ciel*; Sw. *kind* is pronounced in some dialects as *chind*. The vowel *a* in "father" is also one of the most unstable: it may go into *ä* or *au* (fall) or *oo*. Languages allow modification of their sounds by those of other languages. There is no limit to the mixture of languages: the strongest prevails and survives.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.—Dec. 21.—Mr. Edward Woods, President, in the chair.—The paper read was 'On the Use and Equipment of Engineering Laboratories,' by Prof. A. B. W. Kennedy.

ARISTOTELIAN.—Dec. 20.—Mr. S. H. Hodgson, President, in the chair.—Mr. H. Turnill was elected a Member.—Mr. H. W. Carr read a paper 'On Malebranche.'—The paper was followed by a discussion.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

THUR. Royal Institution, 3.—'Chemistry of Light and Photography,' Prof. Dewar (Juvenile Lecture).
— London Institution, 5.—'War and Ballooning,' Mr. E. S. Bruce.
THURS. Royal Institution, 3.—'Chemistry of Light and Photography,' Prof. Dewar (Juvenile Lecture).
— London Institution, 6.—'Old-Fashioned English Music,' Mr. A. W. Barrett.
SAT. Royal Institution, 3.—'Chemistry of Light and Photography,' Prof. Dewar (Juvenile Lecture).

Science Gossip.

MR. S. H. VINES is intending to recast entirely and almost rewrite his edition of Prof. Prantl's 'Elementary Text-Book of Botany,' and his new work may be expected from Messrs. Swan, Sonnenschein & Co. in the course of next year. In the mean time the publishers are reissuing the existing book without alteration.

Apropos of the potato tercentenary there will be published in the January number of the *Quarterly Journal of Microscopical Science* a paper accompanied by a complete series of illustrative plates on the fungus of the potato disease. The paper is by Prof. Marshall Ward, and will form the only complete account of the life-history of this important organism which has been produced.

ARRANGEMENTS have been made for the introduction, at Prof. Dewar's lectures for children 'On the Chemistry of Light and Photography' at the Royal Institution, of a powerful beam of electric light, equal in intensity to a sunbeam, into the theatre for photographic experiments. Improvements have been made in the warming, lighting, and ventilation of the theatre during the autumn.

MR. J. ALLEN BROWN will shortly publish, through Macmillan & Co., a work entitled 'Palaeolithic Man in North-West Middlesex: the Evidence of the Existence and Physical Condition of Man as he Lived in Ealing and its Neighbourhood, illustrated by the Condition and Culture presented by certain Existing Savage Races.'

MM. BECQUEREL, Berthelot, Cornu, Mascart, Lippmann, and Fizeau, commissioners appointed to inquire into the protection of buildings from lightning, have reported to the Minister of Instruction that it is indispensable for complete safety to have all iron roofs, doors, pipes, sashes, &c., carefully connected with the apparatus usually attached to public buildings as protections against electric discharges.

THE first fasciculus of an extensive 'Dictionnaire Théorique et Pratique d'Électricité et de Magnétisme,' edited by MM. G. Dumont, Maurice Leblanc, and E. de Labédoyère, is to be published in Paris in the course of January. The work will extend to about twenty-five parts.

PROF. M. B. SNYDER, of the Central High School, Philadelphia, publishes in the *Journal of the Franklin Institute* for December a lecture delivered by him 'On the Electric Exhibition and Pure Research.' He describes very satisfactorily "the immediate practical bearing of the praiseworthy inventive and mechanical skill displayed" in the Electric Exhibition. This advances him to the consideration of the benefit to be expected from the endowment of pure research.

MR. R. L. J. ELLERY, the Government Astronomer at Melbourne, sends us his *Monthly Record* for July.

THE Moslem population of Algeria continues to increase more rapidly than does the French or the "Foreign." The latter, which means Spanish and Italian, is equal to the French, and increases at the same rate.

M. J. A. LE BEL brought before the Académie des Séances on November 22nd some facts connected with the Russian petroleum. The volatile portions of the oil of Tschungnalek are absolutely similar to those of the oils of Baku. The fractional distillation of the Russian petroleum volatile below 60° does not contain any naphthenes, thus showing that the conclusion

of Bellstein and Kurbatow, that they were identical with the benzene hydrides, was correct.

MESSRS. LONGMAN & Co. will publish in the first week of January a work on 'Railway Problems: an Inquiry into the Conditions of Railway Working in Different Countries,' by Mr. J. S. Jeans, Secretary to the Iron and Steel Institute.

FINE ARTS

ROYAL SOCIETY OF PAINTERS in WATER COLOURS.—The WINTER EXHIBITION OF SKETCHES AND STUDIES IS NOW OPEN, 5, Pall Mall East, from Ten till Five.—Admission, 1s.—Catalogue, 6d. ALFRED D. FRIPP, R.W.S., Secretary.

INSTITUTE OF PAINTERS in OIL COLOURS, Piccadilly, W.—The ANNUAL EXHIBITION NOW OPEN from 10 till 5.—Admission, 1s. ALFRED EVERILL, Secretary.

'THE VALE OF TEARS'—DORE'S LAST GREAT PICTURE, completed a few days before he died. NOW ON VIEW at the Dore Gallery, 33, New Bond Street, with 'Christ leaving the Praetorium,' 'Christ's Entry into Jerusalem,' 'The Dream of Pilate's Wife,' and his other great Pictures. From Ten to Six Daily.—Admission, 1s.

MR. DICKES'S GALLERY OF OLD MASTERS, 81, Charlotte-street, Fitzroy Square.—NOW ON VIEW, Important Examples of Rembrandt and of his Scholars, G. Douw, Eeckhout, De Koninck, De Wer, and Braemer. Also of Teniers, Zorn, Rubens, Van Goyen, Vanderweide, M. Hondeloeter, Van der Werf, Neefs, Tenburg, A. Ostade, Kottenhamer, Ruysdael, Paul Potter, Both, Correggio, and many others; all being Pictures from important Collections.—Admission by Address Card Daily from Two to Six, and by appointment at other times.

CHRISTMAS BOOKS.

The Lay of the Last Minstrel, by Sir W. Scott, has been republished by Messrs. Chatto & Windus with rather weak and "modern" illustrations by various artists, of which, as usual, the figure designs are the feeblest, the landscapes the prettier. The former lack romantic force and picturesqueness; the rude vigour of the subjects is rarely, if ever, reflected in them, and their tameness is not due to an excess of grace. While the typography of this volume is excellent, the binding is the latest—let us hope, too, the last—specimen of churchwarden's Gothic, and very ugly in colour.—*The Song of the Three Children* comes to us from Messrs. Low & Co., with cuts the greater number of which are, to say the least of them, out of keeping with the quasi-sacred origin of the subjects. That a venerable and bearded rector of advanced ritualistic tendencies should appear doing duty at his altar before devotees in hats of the "newest block," and coats the draughtsman has failed to make fit, is in such a volume an unexpected phenomenon, defensible no doubt, but at first sight rather startling, and quite bewildering where it follows a picture of the Jewish High Priest wearing the breastplate of the Lord, and those petticoats it pleased the artists of the seventeenth century to endow him with. Some of the landscapes are pretty, but their relationships to the verses printed with them are remote. Persons devoid of the sense of humour ought to be pleased with this pretty little book; to others who delight in incongruities and their comic side we have given a hint for which the artists and the publishers ought to be grateful.

We have received from Messrs. Walker & Co. Gray's *Elegy in a Country Churchyard*, a pretty little volume with dainty cuts of landscapes and neat typography. The illustrations, which have an over-laboured, stippled look that is unpleasant, are by Mr. A. Woodruff. From the same firm comes *Bingen on the Rhine*, by Caroline Norton, of which the same may be said.—From Messrs. M. Ward & Co. we have a pretty little book called *A Christmas Greeting*, with nice decorations in colours and gold, and *Knocking*, the letterpress of which refers to "Behold, I stand at the door and knock." As an appeal to religious emotions this volume, illustrated with floral borders in red and silver, and typography of silver, is not impressive. As an ornament we have only praise for it.

Sonnets from the Portuguese, by E. B. Browning (Trübner & Co.), contains in a long quarto volume, most handsomely printed and clad in a binding very tasteful, but somewhat cold

in colour, the beautiful verses whose charm is inexhaustible. Mr. L. S. Ipsen has decorated these poems with borders of exquisite draughtsmanship and engraving, and designed with taste and grace such as we rarely find surpassed. We should for obvious reasons have preferred that the borders had been of one style only, and not been due to Greek, Etruscan, Roman, Arabian, Gothic, Renaissance, and rococo models. That the majority are choice examples is true, and much tact has been employed by Mr. Ipsen in fitting the subjects of his designs to the allusions of the sonnets; thus, vines are used to adorn the sixth sonnet, and an allusion to the Rialto is made the excuse for a design embodying Venetian mosaic decorations.

Reminiscences of the Colonial and Indian Exhibition, illustrated by T. Riley, edited by F. Cundall (Clowes & Sons), is a very slight account of the sections treated *seriatim*, with a certain number of cuts, none of which is specially good, while some are decidedly bad. Many persons may find interesting matter in the letterpress. We should hardly have thought it desirable to preserve records of a great many ugly things here delineated.

Homère, Iliade. Traduction par É. Personneux. (Paris, Quantin.)—This is a prose translation, enriched with twenty-four designs by M. Henri Motte, a vigorous and effective painter of melodramas, whose contributions to the Salon we have often noticed. The book is handsome, the printing unexceptionable, and the paper good, but M. Motte, great in pictorial spectacles as he is, is not equal to illustrating the *Iliad* with aptitude and dignity. He is at his best when the subject offers opportunity for theatrical display; at his worst wherever humour, pathos, or passion is demanded. His combats are French and stagey; his Pallas is a girl, his Venus a courtesan, his warriors are supernumeraries of the theatre, and his horses refer to the *voiture*. The most unfortunate design represents the parting of Hector and Andromache.

SERIALS.

The Portfolio, 1886 (Seeley & Co.), has reached a respectable age, having begun its career in 1870, and counted among its contributors a large proportion of the more studious and accomplished art writers of the day. The present volume is, on the whole, rather above the level of its predecessors. There is, however, a growing tendency to indulge in mere gossip and an amateurishness which used not to prevail to such an extent, and should, we think, be guarded against. This year Mr. Hamerton writes on 'Imagination in Landscape Painting,' but as his monograph has been published independently, we reserve criticism. Among the best articles is Mr. Watkiss Lloyd's 'Tiryns,' a compact and all too short notice; the worst of it is that it is not searchingly critical. Still better is a paper by the same competent writer on 'The Laccœon,' full of keen criticism of the right sort. The late Mr. J. B. Atkinson's remarks on 'Lugano and B. Luini' are, we believe, the latest important production of his; they are marked by a freer hand and lighter touch than usual with the author, and supply, in a brief space, a neat and careful analysis of the art work of Leonardo's great pupil, and some new conclusions of value. Mrs. Atkinson has contributed a good paper on modern art needlework. Mr. Letherbrow, who has taken some bright obscurities under his charge, literally illustrates W. Hull and W. Brookes, artists of local renown. Miss Zimmern writes happily about Chodowiecki; and there are papers on the frescoes of the Farnesina, Hatfield House, James Ward, G. Morland, Pomanders (a capital article), Italian terra-cottas, and Sussex ironwork. Among the engravings are Botticelli's 'Venus reclining, with Cupids' (which is not Venus at all), in the National Gallery, by Mr. Rhoad; Hogarth's 'Shrimp Girl,' by M. C. Walt-

ner; and two reproductions of Van Dyck and Rembrandt.

The Art Journal, 1886 (Virtue & Co.), aims at meeting the wants of a larger public than the *Portfolio*, and fulfils its purpose thoroughly well. There are good papers on 'Decorative Needlework,' by Mr. L. Higgin; 'Suggestions in Decorative Design,' by Mr. G. T. Robinson, a numerous series which is made valuable by the practical knowledge which has guided the selection of historical details found in old pictures (of these we desire a good many more); Mr. C. Leland's notes on 'Home Arts,' which would bear amplifying; and 'Steam Yachting' and 'Cruising Yachts,' which are crisp notices by Mr. D. Kemp. The readable papers are too numerous for mention; they are not all of them very solid. On the whole, it seems to us that the ablest writers, with some exceptions, have not space enough allowed to them. The page cuts are almost all charming, varied, and spirited. 'Art Notes' are remarkable for crispness and, in many cases, prescience, and there are touches of sarcasm which, if sometimes stinging, are pleasant and fresh. The writer is unquestionably fair, and almost invariably well informed. *The Art Journal* is, on the other hand, not strong in criticisms of exhibitions.

The Art Annual ('Art Journal' Office) for 1886 consists of a biography of Mr. L. Alma Tadema by Miss H. Zimmern; it is decidedly inferior to its forerunners on the President and Sir J. Millais. We assume the general accuracy of the personal details because such a work could not be prepared without much aid from the artist, but one of many slips occurs at the very outset, when we are told that the painter, a Friesland of old descent, is "by birth" "of good Dutch burgher origin," and that his early years were passed in Holland; neither statement is quite correct. Miss Zimmern is apt—by way, we suppose, of showing her independence—to be censorious; yet her best piece of criticism will be found in a notice of the complaints made by less impressive persons than herself of the painter's "want of imagination": "Tadema has much imagination, great constructive powers, but he lacks a little that form of sentiment which invests the most commonplace action with a human tenderness which arouses our feelings of fellowship with the persons represented." Again: "To be living and modern, for all his archaisms, may be defined as the key-note of his art." On the whole, we are convinced that Miss Zimmern would do well to revise her biography. The three biographies, having been issued together, make a graceful gift-book.

EXPLORATION IN PALESTINE.

HERR SCHUMACHER communicates to the Palestine Exploration Fund two papers of observations made during recent official journeys. The first, which will appear in the new number of the *Quarterly Statement*, contains an account of the discovery of a large number of tombs, oil presses, cisterns, &c., of the kind familiar to those who have looked into Capt. Conder's memoirs. They were found by excavations made for the repair of roads or the construction of aqueducts and conduits. Thus, on the southern slope of Tell el Fokhhâr, exactly one mile east of Acre, there have been uncovered, at a depth of 22 ft. below the surface, the foundations of a great wall of large stones with the well-known marginal draft. Herr Schumacher suggests that the ancient city extended as far as this mound; but the wall may belong to an ancient fortress. Capitals, portions of statues, &c., have also been found in this locality.

In a second journey Herr Schumacher was able to examine and plan the very curious remains of the old castle near Tiberias, which Col. Kitchenor could not get at, called Kusr Bint el Melek. He also found the old Jewish cemetery of Tiberias, and has confirmed Mr. John Macgre-

gor's discovery of the existence of crocodiles in Palestine, having actually seen one.

Mr. Greville Chester writes from Antioch calling attention to the deplorable fact that the magnificent walls of the city, the finest existing specimens of Crusading work, are being demolished and used for building materials.

A remarkable confirmation of a philological prediction has just been reported. Eleven years ago M. Clermont-Ganneau, in a memoir published by the Académie des Inscriptions et Belles-Lettres, pointed out that the Semitic name corresponding to Hippos (with reference to Hippos of the Decapolis) would be *Sousitha*, which in turn corresponds with the Arabic word *Sousya*, and he suggested that the word should be looked for, and the place when found examined. This is exactly what has been done. Herr Schumacher has found in the Jaulân the very name *Sousya*, with extensive ruins, in which, apparently without knowing of M. Clermont-Ganneau's suggestion, he sees the ancient site of Hippos.

STOTHARD'S ILLUSTRATIONS TO GESSNER.

The Leadenhall Press, E.C.

In noticing 'Solomon Gessner, the Swiss Theocritus' (forming No. 2 of the Leadenhall Press "Sixteenpenny Series of Illustrated Gleanings from the Classics"), your art critic says: "If Crome's original plate of this graceful thing is still in existence and capable of yielding impressions as good as that before us, we are glad of it." The implied doubt thrown upon our very distinct statement on the title-page that the six illustrations are from the original copperplates engraved in 1802 by Robert Crome from drawings by Thomas Stothard, R.A., has been expressed by other reviewers, and when reiterated in the *Athenæum* we are compelled to notice it. The now scarce English translation in three volumes octavo of 'The Works of Solomon Gessner' was published by Cadell in 1802, and Stothard's exquisitely designed coppers (sixteen in all) thereto, from which six only were selected for the work mentioned, form part of Mr. Tuer's extensive collection of original engraved copperplates. The illustrations to No. 1 of the same series, 'Sir Charles Grandison,' are from the same source and equally authentic.

FIELD & TUER.

** We never doubted that the original plate is in existence.

NOTES FROM ATHENS.

OVER and above the interest that always attaches to anything calculated to throw light on the best preserved secret in the world, the mysteries of Eleusis, the great Temple of Demeter has this peculiarity, that its form is totally different from that of any other temple known to us, while its worship dates from so early a time that all knowledge of its origin is lost in the darkness that hangs over all belonging to the age before history was written. During the last eighteen months a great deal has been done here in the way of excavations, and no account of them having been given since I described the remarkable discovery of the pre-Periclean temple, burnt by Xerxes, in the *Athenæum* of August, 1885, and as no plan of them will be published by the Greek Archaeological Society before April, 1887, Dr. Dörpfeld not having yet been down to make the necessary alterations in his former drawings, it may be well now to give some account of them.

What first attracts attention from a visitor who has been absent some time is the clearing away of rubbish from behind the Temple of Hadrian, which has resulted in laying bare three natural caves in the rock beneath the Acropolis, which seem to have been utilized in some way for the purposes of worship, as they are connected together by the massive groundwork of a small temple, which in all probability was dedicated to Pluto. On this site were found three pieces of sculpture of very beautiful workman-

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ship—the middle-sized statue of a man draped, with naked breast and long flowing hair, and two other marbles with representations of Pluto. The first is a fine relief, 3 ft. long by 1½ ft. wide, in two compartments, in the first of which are Pluto and Persephone in Hades, seated at a table on which is food, Pluto offering with his right hand a horn cup or beaker of wine to his companion; while in the other Demeter and Persephone are seated at a similar table with food, a nude cup-bearer standing behind the latter. These tables are not, as was at first supposed, representations of funeral banquets, but representations of an *anathema* or sacred offering to the gods, as is set forth in the Greek inscription below, where a man named Lysimachides appears as the donor. The other marble, which was much larger, is only an upper fragment, containing the beginning of a long inscription, with below the well-carved heads of Pluto and Persephone, some 6 in. of the round-knobbed and then sharp-pointed sceptre each held in the left hand appearing alongside above. The first five or six lines of the inscription enumerate the various offerings then being made to the deities represented.

Between these caves and the Temple of Demeter has been discovered a chamber cut in the rock of unknown destination. It is reached by five steps, rough-hewn in the hillside, leading to the level floor of a room 11 yards long by 3½ yards wide, having at the back in the face of the straight-cut rock a high bench, 5 yards long by 1 yard wide. On the right, or south side, one enters, on a little higher plane, another chamber, about 4 yards square, with a low seat or stone bench in the rock facing the north. Turning now to the great temple itself, one is struck by its strangely altered appearance at the far, or west end, owing to the recent discovery of a broad flight of twenty-four steps, 12 ft. long (corresponding to the similar rock-hewn staircase already known to exist at the south-west corner), leading to a splendid level platform cut in the side of the hill, immediately overlooking the temple. From this noble stage it is supposed access was obtained to that upper story of the temple mentioned by Plutarch in his 'Life of Pericles,' chap. xiii., whence the uninitiated or others could become spectators at a distance of some of the scenes enacted below. To return to the newly discovered northern staircase, which appears all the more ancient from its steps being low—they are about 9 in. high—we come near the top to a lower platform, quite off the staircase to the right, about 10 yards long by 4 yards broad. Returning from this chamber in the hillside to the long flight of stairs, one finds at the top another broad staircase to the right or north, its steps being over a foot in height and therefore difficult of ascent, leading straight to the Acropolis above, crowning the whole hill. This approach is divided into a first flight of six steps, divided by a landing stage 2½ yards broad from the second flight of seven or eight steps (one seems broken away) leading to the top. The rock-cut staircase on the south side, corresponding to the one just described, is itself to be further excavated as soon as Mr. Philios, the learned and obliging director, can pull down and rebuild the entrance and front wall of the courtyard of his own house, which now stand in the way, but which are necessary to preserve in a kind of temporary museum the objects that have been discovered from the beginning of these excavations on this deeply interesting site.

The modern Greek church and enclosure that stood last year at the extreme south-east corner, just below the Temple of Demeter, towards the sea, have now been wholly cleared away, and have revealed, first, the ground floor of several Byzantine houses; secondly, a fine half-circle in large well-squared stones divided by a diameter-wall 15 yards long, of similarly solid construction; and, lastly, the massive stone walls of the great peribolus itself, surrounding the chief centre of

Athenian worship. The nature of this very singular stone half-circle has not been determined with any degree of certainty, but it may be stated that it resembles the foundations of a temple recently laid bare in the old Agora at Athens. If not a temple, dedicated probably to Dionysus, who most certainly had a shrine at Eleusis within the sacred enclosure, it was one of those round towers built here and there along the walls to serve as granaries for the immense stores of wheat and barley brought as offerings or tithes from all parts of Greece and its flourishing Archipelago.

The result of all these excavations is to convince Mr. Philios, who has directed them from the first, that the destruction of this vast shrine was not the work of man—for men would never have removed such enormous blocks of stone and marble to the sites in which they are now found—but is owing to an earthquake, such as the other day threw down the pillars of the great Temple of Zeus at Olympia, so recently disinterred by the Germans. It may be mentioned that Mr. Philios has in hand a large and exhaustive work, which will give the fullest account possible of all that has been done in the way of discovery from first to last at Eleusis.

JOSEPH HIRST.

Sir-Francis Gossy.

THE private view of the Grosvenor Exhibition is appointed for next Saturday, January 1st; the public will be admitted to see the collection of Van Dycks on the Monday following.

THE small picture bought by Sir F. Burton at the Blenheim sale, by the comparatively little known A. de Pape, has been hung as No. 1221 in Room XII. of the National Gallery. His works are very scarce. There is one in the Berlin Museum, No. 1010, representing an old painter teaching two boys to draw, and signed with the name of De Pape. Another is No. 106 at the Hague, 'An Old Woman plucking a Fowl,' signed. Little or nothing is known of De Pape beyond what is proved by the character of his pictures, that he belonged to the seventeenth century. Most of his works have been given to Maes, G. Dou, or Breckelencamp. In a corner of Room XII., as above, has been hung a picture by Otto Marcellis numbered 1222, given to the nation by Mr. J. Whitworth Shaw. It represents a moss-covered tree-trunk, a broad-leaved plant, a frog, and birds who are disputing the possession of a snail; butterflies and moths fly about or crawl on the stalks. The painting, as the master's invariably is, is very careful, the light and shade are excellently managed, the birds are full of life and character. At the Uffizi Marcellis is represented by four pictures; at Dresden by two; at the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge, by three. He is known as the Serpent Painter, because he affected snakes as subjects, and kept many of them, with other reptiles, in a spot of ground which he had enclosed near Amsterdam. There were two brothers of this name, Otto and Evert. It is known that the former was living in 1680, or, according to older authorities, in 1673; he was born in 1613.

THE Benchers of Lincoln's Inn have given leave to the Society of Arts to put a tablet over the chambers of Secretary Thurlow, the friend of Oliver Cromwell and co-secretary with Milton to the Commonwealth. We understand the tablet will be placed on the Chancery Lane front.

THE Society of Medallists, in continuance of its programme of the present year, intends to offer prizes for models in plaster of medals in commemoration of Her Majesty's jubilee. The competition will be open to all artists and students. The society proposes to issue casts in bronze of the successful competitions. The honorary secretaries of the society are Mr. R. S. Poole and Mr. H. A. Grueber, of the British Museum.

WE are informed on authority that, notwithstanding assertions to the contrary, the Duke of Buccleuch's great collection of miniatures, one of the very first rank, is not to be sold. It is equally untrue that the Duke has let Drumlanrig to Mr. Blundell Maple for twenty-one years.

MESSRS. CHRISTIE, MANSON & WOODS will sell the under-mentioned famous gatherings of works of art before long. The sales will be memorable because some great treasures will be put up to auction, the bringing together of which has been a labour of years and entailed a great expenditure. They belong to the Duke of Buccleuch, and are of world-wide renown:—Rembrandt's etchings, wanting only such as are almost unique or doubtful: many of the etchings are in various states, and come from the Aylesford, Esdaile, Hawkins, and Verastolk collections. A collection of Albert Dürer's engravings, containing the rare etchings on iron plates, and wanting only the very few subjects that are unobtainable, as Bartsch, No. 27, 'The Trinity,' 'St. Jerome,' No. 62, small round plate, and a few more. The complete works of Ostade, many in the finest states. A complete collection of the engraved works of Reynolds in the finest proof states. A complete collection of the engraved works of Landseer, proofs in progressive states, from the etchings to the finished plates. A very fine copy of the 'Liber Studiorum,' including etchings, engraver's proofs, &c. Also Marc Antonios and Hopfers. A complete set of Swanewelts, and a fine copy of the 'Basilologia,' also of the 'Herologia.' These were Lord Gosford's. Mr. McKay is preparing the catalogue, and it will be a document worthy of a place in the archives of the "curious" and best amateurs.

DEAN KITCHIN, writing to the *Hampshire Independent*, says that in excavating at the spot where St. Swithun is said to have been buried previous to the transference of his bones to the new church of St. Ethelwold, he came upon an iron ring and staple. The dean points out that, according to the legend, the saint appeared to an aged smith, bidding him let Bishop Ethelwold know that it was time for the translation. The smith did nothing till after the saint had appeared to him thrice; then he went into the churchyard where the saint's tomb was, and, taking hold of an iron ring fastened into the stone which formed the top of the coffin, he prayed that if he who had appeared to him lay buried there, the ring might come easily out of the stone. He gave a pull, and it came out as easily as if it had been bedded in sand. He put the staple of it back in the hole whence it had been drawn, and nobody could move it again. The dean asks if he has found the staple and iron ring of the legend.

THE new Institut für Alterthumskunde, which has been founded at the University of Berlin by Prof. Theodor Mommsen and Otto Hirschfeld, has been joined by Prof. Ulrich Köhler as third teacher. He has undertaken the province of Greek antiquities.

MR. W. MERCER send us the following account of a figure of an Etruscan woman found quite recently in a tomb at Chiusi:—

"I had heard of and knew that this was an exquisite piece of ancient terra-cotta sculpture, but for a moment I was taken by surprise. Could marble exceed this rough and unmanageable material in lifelike human expression? Somewhat larger than life, reclines on her left elbow a female form resembling a Diana in Greek grace, her right hand extending at arm's length a veil, or rather *mantello*, overshadowing her head, which is crowned by an upright diadem as generally worn by the Divine Huntress, but without her crescent moon. In her left hand is an open mirror with folding cover thrown back, and she lifts her countenance with a smile in her eyes and on her lips that bespeaks perfect self-satisfaction. Her rude right arm, full and round, is girt with an armlet, or *armilla*, between shoulder and elbow, and on the wrist is a bracelet painted in high relief, on the neck a *collana* of familiar Etruscan pattern. I noted the absence of rings on the right hand fingers, but on the left I counted five one on the thumb,

two on the forefinger, and two on the third. Her hair is coloured brown, and under her veil is just perceptible the knot which, without comb or pin, binds her tresses together. Her single garment is close fastened at the throat by a circular brooch, and a *mantello* is held shelteringly over her arms and shoulders in elegant folds. So appeared in her lifetime an Etruscan woman. Eyes and eyebrows, hair, jewels, and ornaments are all stained with appropriate colours, but the rest is simply adorned by the skill of the sculptor. Bones and skull, those of an old woman, are placed in a basket side by side with this youthful paragon. The German archaeologists of Rome are in treaty for the purchase on behalf of the Berlin Gallery, and at the time I write the price asked is 400*l.* sterling."

MUSIC

THE WEEK.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—Saturday Concert.
ST. JAMES'S HALL.—London Symphony Concerts.

THE centenary of the birth of a composer so universally esteemed as Weber must necessarily be regarded as an occasion of interest, and though the Crystal Palace concert-room last Saturday was not full, there was a large and appreciative audience. We shall make no attempt at present to consider Weber's correct position in musical art. It may be, as in the case of other composers below those select few to whom the term "great" is universally applied, that his fame has somewhat declined of late; but at any rate his pianoforte works are as popular as ever, and rightly, as he was the first representative of the romantic school, which has since developed so greatly as to partially overshadow the classical school which preceded it. Changes of fashion may have affected the popularity of his operas, but musicians, at any rate, will always hear them with pleasure. As a symphony writer he possesses no serious claims to consideration, as he never followed up the two early attempts made in 1807. The first, in *c*, by far the better of the two, has been heard frequently at the Promenade Concerts, but never at the Crystal Palace. The second, also in *c*, was introduced eleven years ago and repeated last Saturday. It is said to have been written within a week, and the statement is not remarkable, as the symphony is very brief and unpretentious. The composer's aim seems to have been to imitate the style of Haydn, and he has fairly succeeded, but, like all imitations, the work has no intrinsic value. The same may be said of the Mozart-like *aria* "Il momento s'avvicina," 1810, artistically rendered by Mrs. Hutchinson. In the Clarinet Concerto in *e* flat, 1812, we note a distinct advance, and the work, which was interpreted with extraordinary technical ability by Mr. G. A. Clinton, was heartily applauded. We can also praise the finished rendering of the familiar *rondo* in *c* from the First Sonata by Miss Margaret Gyde; but the Crystal Palace Choir was not in good form, and some of the patriotic part-songs, once so popular, fell very flat. Other items—performed, like those already mentioned, in the order of composition—were the overtures to 'Der Freischütz' and 'Oberon'; the Concertstück, played by Herr Stavenhagen; and the *finale* to the first act of 'Euryanthe.' The concerts are now suspended until February 8th, when 'The Revenge' and 'The Story of Sayid' will be performed, with the Novello Choir and the same soloists as at Leeds and St. James's Hall.

The first three items in the programme of Mr. Henschel's morning concert on Wednesday consisted of rarely heard pieces by Weber, in recognition, we presume, of the centenary of his birth, though certainly not calculated to exhibit his genius in a strong light. The first was his overture to Schiller's drama 'Turandot,' composed with some incidental music in 1809. It is based on a genuine Chinese melody taken from Rousseau's 'Dictionary,' and grotesquely scored. The piece has no art value, but it is curious enough to bear an occasional hearing. Weber's sense of humour displays itself strongly in the Concerto for Bassoon, which he composed for Brandt at Munich in 1811, and of which the *adagio* and *rondo* were given in the most perfect manner by Mr. Wotton on this occasion. The solo part abounds in odd leaps of two or three octaves, illustrating in a graphic way the peculiarities of the instrument, which has been termed "the clown of the orchestra." After these curiosities came Beethoven's *c* Minor Symphony, which was, on the whole, well played, though there was nothing phenomenal in the performance. It cannot be said that the five young vocalists who attempted the quintet from the last act of 'Die Meistersinger' rendered justice to their theme, and we refrain from mentioning their names. Experienced artists are alone capable of dealing satisfactorily with Wagner's music. An attractive programme will be offered at the next morning concert on January 12th, including Mendelssohn's 'Reformation' Symphony; Liszt Concerto in *A*, by Herr Stavenhagen; and the 'Egmont' and 'Tannhäuser' overtures.

Musical Gossip.

THE annual performance of the 'Messiah' by the Sacred Harmonic Society was given under adverse conditions in St. James's Hall yesterday week. Miss Eleanor Rees and Signor Foli were unable to appear, and their places were taken by Miss Florence Harrison and Mr. Barrington Foote, whose efforts under the circumstances should not be subjected to criticism. Miss Annie Marriott sang admirably in the soprano solos, and Mr. Iver McKay was moderately successful in the tenor music.

A BEETHOVEN programme was given at the Saturday Popular Concert last week, the instrumental works being the ever popular 'Kreutzer' Sonata, for piano and violin; the Sonata in *D* minor, Op. 31, No. 2, of which Miss Zimmermann gave an admirable performance; the Violin Romance in *F*, Op. 50, played by Madame Néruda; and the Quartet in *B* flat, Op. 18, No. 6. Mrs. Henschel sang Mignon's song and two airs from 'Egmont.' It is worthy of note that the 'Kreutzer' Sonata has only been given once at the Monday Concerts within the past seven years, though many times at the Saturday performances.

THE final programme before Christmas took place on Monday evening, the most important works being Beethoven's Serenade Trio in *D*, Op. 8, and Schumann's Quartet in *A* minor, Op. 41, No. 1. Mr. Max Pauer, who is improving as an artist, though still somewhat over-impulsive, introduced the first of Schubert's 'Drei Clavierstücke,' published in 1868. The piece was composed in 1828, and is in the ordinary *scherso* form, with two trios. Mr. Pauer also played Chopin's Polonaise in *A* flat, Op. 53, but firmly and wisely declined an encore. Signor Piatti rendered two of his own violoncello solos, and Mrs. Henschel gave an exquisite interpretation of Liszt's 'Die Loreley.'

At the last of Mr. Dannreuther's concerts, on Thursday last week, a Pianoforte Quartet in *c*, by Richard Strauss, was performed. The work is numbered Op. 13, but we are not acquainted with any of the earlier compositions by the same musician. The quartet is well written, but on the whole dry, and it did not create a very favourable impression. Bach's Suite Anglaise, No. 1 in *A*, and Mozart's Piano Quartet in *G* minor were included in the programme, indicating that Mr. Dannreuther's sympathies are by no means confined to the most recent developments of musical art.

MR. WILLIAM NICHOLL gave the second of his vocal recitals at the Portman Rooms last Thursday week. The first part of the programme consisted of solos by Handel.

THE programme of Mr. Charles Halle's concert at the Free Trade Hall, Manchester, on Thursday included Schumann's Symphony in *B* flat, the overtures to 'King Stephen' and 'A Midsummer Night's Dream,' an Andante from an unpublished symphony by Haydn, and Rubinstein's Concerto in *c*, played by Miss Agnes Zimmermann.

It is announced that M. Gounod has just completed the mass he had undertaken to write in honour of Joan of Arc.

At the Châtelet Concerts M. Colonne recently brought forward Schubert's great Symphony in *c*. The magnificent work had only once before been heard in its complete shape in Paris—under M. Padeloup some ten or twelve years ago.

THE mortal remains of Rossini, at present lying in the cemetery of Père-Lachaise, are, in accordance with the will of his widow, to be shortly removed to the church of Santa Croce at Florence, the consent of the Italian Parliament having been already obtained.

At the Hamburg Stadttheater a performance of 'Tristan und Isolde' has lately been given without cuts. Herr Stritt, who sang the part of Tristan for the first time, especially distinguished himself.

DRAMA

Roscius Anglicanus; or, an Historical Review of the Stage from 1660 to 1706. By John Downes. With an Historical Preface by Joseph Knight. (Jarvis & Son.)

A NEW edition of Downes has long been wanted. The first, that of 1705, has all but disappeared from the bookselling world, and is only to be obtained at a high price. The second, which Waldron published, with Davies's commentary, in 1789, is not nearly so precious; but it is none of the commonest of books, and is easier sought than found. As the 'Roscius Anglicanus' is a document of quite extraordinary interest there is no apparent reason why it should not have long since been placed within reach of everybody. But it has somehow been decided that Downes is not a popular author, and that he may command none save a private and peculiar circulation. The issue of the present edition—which is reprinted in facsimile from the very copy which Waldron used—is limited to a hundred and thirty-five copies, ten of which are for presentation, so that the old prompter is not much more accessible to the general than he was before. It is obvious, too, that, even in his new guise, he is intended not nearly so much for the student as for the collector. Mr. Knight has contributed a valuable introduction, and a number of useful annotations and corrections; but he

gives his and print places un face, the in connex that is too remote use and w selves wi facsimile been their remain. of Downe the cause would hav of a revise commentar That is ho matter in how the m here. Su Knight ob of the stag do it as hi that he has him by. It has to poor creatu but a *pis al* English; I nothing for fond of acti about; bu ciate of som graced the nothing to t or repeating Mr. Knight which a hist of the Rest eighteenth c absence we and surmise follow the w with more o rection of th first Charles' began the w John's St." Vanbrugg. his License a to Mr. Swinn hill, "the c York's Serva others, "Mr field; and a theatrical pr pleted by "th says Downes, clude my His For the acc Downes enj A failure as for a part in but the king as he pretend presence spoi Oway and I and book—or terton and his forty years on with the spirit composition b sacred hunger gushes that I have left a bo and historians; he was only a

gives his author exactly as he found him, and prints his notes not in their proper places under the text, but as a part of his preface, the symmetry of which they spoil, and in connexion with which they enjoy a life that is too muddled to be interesting and too remote to be practical. That this is the use and wont of all them that busy themselves with the production of reprints in facsimile is not to be denied; it has always been their way, and their way it must always remain. But a facsimile of the first edition of Downes is not what was wanted; and the cause of English theatrical history would have been better served by the issue of a revised and purified text, and a running commentary of correction and explanation. That is how they would have managed the matter in France; and that, we take it, is how the matter should have been managed here. Such a work would be, as Mr. Knight observes, "a history of the revival of the stage"; but none is so competent to do it as himself, and it is to be regretted that he has suffered the opportunity to pass him by.

It has to be admitted that Downes was a poor creature enough, and that his book is but a *pis aller* at best. He wrote deplorable English; he cared little for gossip, and nothing for romance; he seems to have been fond of acting, and to have known something about it; but, though he was the lifelong associate of some of the greatest artists that have graced the English theatre, he has little or nothing to tell of them that is worth hearing or repeating. All the same, his book, as Mr. Knight remarks, is "the one work from which a history of the stage from the period of the Restoration to the beginning of the eighteenth century can be obtained." In its absence we should be reduced to mere gossip and surmise; and under its guidance we can follow the whole course of theatrical history with more or less assurance from the resurrection of that "scattered remnant" of the first Charles's players who, at the Restoration, began the world anew at "the Bull in St. John's St.," to the time when "Captain Vantbrugg . . . Transferred and Invested his License and Government of the Theatre to Mr. Swinny," and to Betterton and Underhill, "the only remains of the Duke of York's Servants," there were added, among others, "Mr. Cyber," and Wilks, and Oldfield; and a cycle of close on fifty years of theatrical progress is rounded off and completed by "the Union in October, 1706," and, says Downes, "I with the said Union conclude my History."

For the accumulation of all this material Downes enjoyed incomparable facilities. A failure as an actor (he was set down for a part in Davenant's 'Siege of Rhodes,' but the king came to the theatre, and, as he pretends, "the sight of that August presence spoild me for an Actor," like Otway and Nat Lee), he was prompter and book—or "scrip"—keeper with Betterton and his comrades for some five-and-forty years on end. Had he been touched with the spirit of Pepys—had he had in his composition but an infinitesimal dose of the sacred hunger of experience which distinguishes that prince of diarists—he might have left a book which other than students and historians had been loth to let die. But he was only a prompter, and as a prompter

only did he observe, and remember, and record. Occasionally he relates an anecdote; or reflects that such and such ladies "by force of Love were erept the Stage"; or indulges in a burst of enthusiasm (Mr. Knight is so generous as to style him "a just but timid critic") about the performance of this or that actor or actress. But, as a rule, he concerns himself only with casts and results: with, as he says on his title-page, "the names of the principal actors and actresses who performed in the Chiefest plays in each House," and "with the Names of the most taking plays; and modern poets." It seems not much, of course; but "a little less, and what worlds away!" is a verse that fits the case exactly. As far as the theatres of the Restoration are concerned, Downes, imperfect and trivial as he is, remains in point of fact our one resource. He is a common prompter; but he is our all. His style is absurd, his memory treacherous, his eye the reverse of photographic, his brain the opposite of apprehensive; but he is our all. Moreover, it is but fair to note, with his last editor, that, if he is "subject to frequent correction" on events that "took place before he joined Sir William Davenant's company, or that happened in the rival house," he is "a fairly trustworthy authority" on such matters as "came within his own personal cognizance"; that "for the casts with which plays were first given and the period of production he is in many cases the only existing authority"; and that "many curious particulars he preserves are nowhere else to be found." But for all this—though he can tell us nothing to the purpose of Betterton and Harris, of Bracegirdle and Barry and Oldfield; though of the many first nights at which he assisted, and of the many famous plays he helped into the world, he records nothing but a beggarly account of new clothes and boxes empty or well filled—for all this he must be remembered with gratitude and respect, and seated with the fathers of the English stage.

Mr. Knight's preface is, as has been said, most valuable. Among the questions it discusses in connexion with Downes is that first performance of 'The Siege of Rhodes,' which is memorable in so many ways and from so many points of view: as the beginning of opera in England, as the thin end of the wedge (so to speak) of the theatrical Restoration, as the earliest instance of the use of scenery, and as the means of introducing to an English public the first of an illustrious line of English actresses. Among the notes and corrections Mr. Knight has introduced a number by Genest and Isaac Reed. He has also reprinted in facsimile the ordinance for the suppression of stage plays from a copy in the possession of his publishers. Apart, therefore, from its quality as a literary curiosity, his edition of the 'Roscius Anglicanus' is, as was to be expected, a publication of genuine and enduring interest.

THE WEEK.

OLYMPIC.—'The Churchwarden,' a Farce in Three Acts. Translated from the German by Messrs. Ogden and Cassell, and adapted to the English Stage by Mr. Edward Terry.

STRAFFORD.—'Strafford,' a Tragedy in Five Acts. By Robert Browning.

'THE CHURCHWARDEN,' which after a long peregrination through England has found

its way to London, is a fair specimen of rather boisterous farce. In the underlying notion of the responsibilities of a position not supposed in England to involve any great measure of social distinction, and in the aspiration of the hero towards a higher grade in the social scale, are found the only proofs of its German origin. It is moreover agreeably free from impure suggestion, and the subject, utilized previously a hundred times, of a married man supping with a young and attractive stranger, whom he rashly passes off as his wife upon friends who surprise him, is treated as decorously as the subject admits. The mirth produced is as genuine as it is unstrained, there are few dull spots in the piece, and the action accordingly, though the dialogue is flaccid and the characterization nil, keeps the audience in a simmer of amusement. Except in two characters the representation, though careful and adequate, is not specially noteworthy. Mr. Terry, who has rarely, if ever, been better suited, makes the most of the perplexities of the churchwarden, on whom a single slip from rectitude brings an avalanche of troubles. His acting is, of course, in his well-known style, but the style is wholly fitted to the part. There is no needless grimace or extravagance, the whole being quietly and consistently droll. Mr. Bishop, whose make-up is exceedingly good, acts with quiet power; Mr. Valentine and Miss Clara Cowper are acceptable. For the display of Mr. J. G. Taylor's distinct gifts as a comedian few opportunities are afforded; and Miss Maria Jones is too loud spoken for the size of the stage.

After a fifty years' sleep Mr. Browning's tragedy of 'Strafford' reappears upon the stage. The verdict passed upon it when, on May 2nd, 1837, it was first given by Macready at Covent Garden may well serve for the revival. A *succès d'estime* was then, as now, obtained, and the public, which recognized the fidelity of the picture, the vigour of the language, the absence of affectation, and the other qualities, negative and positive, of the play, found also the representation tedious. Macready, with safe instinct, had prophesied, if not failure, at least a half success. 'Strafford' is, in fact, a fine study of character and of history, but it is not a great drama. It has no great dominant motive—it is thrilled through with no blood of passion. Strafford himself, resolute and self-confident at the wrong moment, and devoted to the miserable apology for a monarch whom he serves, is but moderately interesting; the king, vacillating and treacherous, is, of course, contemptible; Pym, even with his stern sense of duty, compelling him to a Cato-like sacrifice, is fateful, but depressing; and Lady Carlisle, whose love for Strafford is intended to lighten the picture, answers her purpose not too well. What are the misdeeds of Charles, and what the causes of complaint in Strafford, are not very easily seen. Add to this that the whole is the work of a man so ignorant of stagecraft that he ushers the characters on to the stage and off as suits his convenience, and the reasons are supplied why a work worthy of consideration in many respects, and imbued with a certain measure of tragic power, proved tedious in representation. As now played the piece appears to be in an indefinite number of acts. The weakest

point is the termination, which, though fine as literary work, is absolutely tame in representation. At the outset of this, Charles visits the prisoner in disguise, overhears the denunciations of his own perfidy, and, overmastered by his sufferings, falls in a swoon. In this state he remains, whilst Lady Carlisle comes in to have a last, and first, love scene, and Pym arrives to address to Strafford a speech, half apology, half expressive of devotion to his country. That Strafford in his dying moment should see the veil of mystery uplifted, and should watch the procession to the block terminate as Charles himself walks thither, is fitting and natural in tragedy. The whole is, however, mismanaged, and the scene, though the language is fine, is a failure. 'Strafford' remains a play to be read, and if ever the magnificent series of historical plays we possess is, so far as the stage is concerned, to be carried through the stormy scenes of the civil war, it must be in some fashion wholly different from that here adopted.

Many young actors played well. Mr. Foss as Strafford was picturesque and impassioned, but restless. Mr. Bernard Gould spoke well as Pym, and made the character more effective than it seems to have been in the hands of Vandenhoff, by whom it was first taken. Miss Webster, Miss Leyton, Mr. Dodsworth, Mr. Ambient, Mr. Bindloss, and other actors showed intention and capacity.

Dramatic Gossip.

FOR a new drama by Mr. H. A. Jones, which will succeed 'Jim the Penman' at the Haymarket, Messrs. Willard, Dacre, Kemble, Beer-bohm Tree, Archer, and Dodsworth, and Misses Lydia Cowell, Marion Terry, and Mary Rorke have been engaged.

'THE REFEREE,' a three-act comedy produced on Tuesday afternoon at the Vaudeville, proves to be an alteration of 'The Undergraduates,' formerly given at the Opéra Comique. Misses Eva Sothorn and Grace Arnold, Messrs. Yorke Stephens, Felix Morris, and Stewart Dawson, played the principal parts. 'Lord Macninn,' a one-act farce of no special brilliancy, given on the same occasion, showed Mr. Morris to advantage as an eccentric Scotch landlord.

MR. LEONARD BOYNE has replaced Mr. Charles Warner at the Vaudeville Theatre as the representative of Tom Jones in 'Sophia.'

A NEW ballet by Mr. Hansen, with the familiar name 'The Seasons,' has been given at the Alhambra. Mlle. Paris made in it a successful first appearance.

'THE MILLINER'S BILL,' with Mrs. John Wood and Mr. Arthur Cecil in their original characters, is added to-night to the bill at the Court, the remainder of the programme consisting as heretofore of 'The Schoolmistress.'

AN eccentric programme has been arranged by the management of the Scribe Theatre at Turin. Preparations are being made for the performance of a series of Italian comedies of the sixteenth century, including some of the not very decent pieces acted at the court of Pope Leo X. The list contains Cardinal Bibiena's 'Calandra,' Machiavelli's 'Mandradora,' comedies of Ariosto, Pietro Aretino, the Florentine apothecary Gracchino, and one piece by Lorenzo de Medici. Each play is to be preceded by a short elucidatory lecture.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—C. L. J.—T. S.—B. M. N.—K. C.—E. S. L.—W. D.—M. A. H. W.—Accent—T. W. D.—received.

No notice can be taken of anonymous communications.

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